



'Changed Forever': Florida Panhandle devastated by Michael

By JAY REEVES and
BRENDAN FARRINGTON
Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — The devastation inflicted by Hurricane Michael came into focus Thursday with rows upon rows of homes found smashed to pieces, and rescue crews struggling to make their way into the stricken areas in hopes of accounting for hundreds of people who may have stayed behind.

At least three deaths were blamed on Michael, the most powerful hurricane to hit the continental U.S. in over 50 years, and it wasn't done yet: Though reduced to a tropical storm, it brought flash flooding to North Carolina and Virginia, soaking areas still recovering from Hurricane Florence.

Under a clear blue sky, families living along the Florida Panhandle emerged from shelters and hotels to a perilous landscape of shattered homes and shopping centers, beeping security alarms, wailing sirens and hovering helicopters. Gov. Rick Scott said the Panhandle woke up to "un-



An American flag flies amidst destruction in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael in Mexico Beach, Fla., Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018.

Associated Press

imaginable destruction." "So many lives have been changed forever. So many families have lost everything," he said.

The full extent of Michael's

fury was only slowly becoming clear, with some of the hardest-hit areas difficult to reach because of roads blocked by debris or water. An 80-mile (130-kilometer)

stretch of Interstate 10, the main east-west route along the Panhandle, was closed. Some of the worst damage was in Mexico Beach, where the hurricane

crashed ashore Wednesday as a Category 4 monster with 155 mph (250 kph) winds and a storm surge of 9 feet (2.7 meters).

Continued on Page 3

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U.S. asks Central America to do more on illegal immigration

By LUIS ALONSO LUGO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence told leaders of three Central American countries on Thursday that the U.S. is ready to do more to help their economies if they make a greater effort to fight illegal immigration.

"If you do more, I'm here to say on behalf of the president of the United States and the American people, we'll do more," Pence said as he opened a conference at the State Department.

Pence thanked President Juan Orlando Hernandez of Honduras, President Jimmy Morales of Guatemala and Vice President Oscar Ortiz of El Salvador for having made progress since they met for the first time last year in Miami.

But he said that over the last year alone more than 225,000 people from the three Central American countries had attempted to illegally enter the United States, accounting for more than half of all illegal immigrants apprehended at the southern border.



Vice President Mike Pence speaks during the second Conference for Prosperity and Security in Central America meeting at State Department on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

He said while the number of arrests from El Salvador has declined, the flows from Honduras and Guatemala are up 61 percent and 75 percent, respectively.

Pence told the three leaders that the best way forward for them is to strengthen bonds with the United States "even as countries like China tries to expand

their influence in the region." Washington recalled its diplomatic envoys last month from El Salvador, Panama and the Dominican Republic

after those countries cut ties with Taiwan to open diplomatic relations with China.

Hernandez replied he would like more certainty about what to expect from the United States, because the funds requested by the Trump administration are less than the money allocated in previous years.

The Trump administration proposed \$460 million in assistance last year, 30 percent less than what Congress approved in 2016 under President Barack Obama.

The U.S. has committed more than \$2.6 billion in foreign assistance over fiscal years 2015 to 2018 in Central America. The local governments have budgets totaling \$8.6 billion from 2016 to 2018. Hernandez and the other leaders also expressed concern over the Trump administration policy to separate immigrant families at the border.

The two-day Conference On Prosperity And Security In Central America, co-hosted by Mexico, will focus on security on Friday. □

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AP source: Dina Powell tells Trump she doesn't want U.N. job



In this April 5, 2017 file photo, then White House Senior Counselor for Economic Initiatives Dina Powell, followed by Ivanka Trump, leaves a news conference in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

By JONTHAN LEMIRE and JILL COLVIN

NEW YORK (AP) — Former deputy national security adviser Dina Powell told the White House on Thursday that she's not interested in serving as the next U.N. ambassador, a person familiar

with the conversation told The Associated Press.

President Donald Trump had said the Goldman Sachs executive was on his shortlist of five people to replace outgoing ambassador Nikki Haley, who surprised many when she

announced this week that she planned to depart at the end of the year.

But Powell spoke to the president on Thursday and asked that her name be removed from consideration, according to the person, who was not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity.

Powell indicated to Trump that she was honored to be discussed but felt it wasn't the right time for her family to take the post, the person said.

Powell, who has close ties to the president's daughter, Ivanka Trump, and his son-in-law, Jared Kushner, also told the president that she would be happy to continue to informally advise the White House. □

CHANGED FOREVER**Continued from Front**

Video from a drone revealed widespread devastation across the town of about 1,000 people.

Entire blocks of homes near the beach were obliterated, reduced to concrete slabs in the sand. Rows and rows of other homes were turned into piles of splintered lumber or were crumpled and slumped at odd angles. Entire roofs were torn away and dropped onto a road.

State officials said 285 people in Mexico Beach had defied a mandatory evacuation order ahead of the storm.

National Guard troops made their way into the ground-zero town and found 20 survivors Wednesday night, and more rescue crews were pushing into the area, with the fate of many residents unknown. Mishelle McPherson and her ex-husband searched for the elderly mother of a friend. The woman lived in a small cinderblock house about 150 yards from the Gulf and thought she would be OK. The home was found smashed, with no sign of the woman.

"Do you think her body would be here? Do you think it would have floated away?" McPherson asked. As thousands of National Guard troops, law enforcement officers and medical teams fanned out, the governor pleaded with people in the devastated areas to stay away for now because of hazards that included fallen trees and power lines.

"I know you just want to go home. You want to check on things and begin the recovery process," Scott said. But "we have to make sure things are safe."

Over 900,000 homes and businesses in Florida, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas were without power.

The Coast Guard said it rescued at least 27 people before and after the hurricane came ashore, mostly from homes along the Florida coastline, and searched for more victims.

Among those brought to safety were nine people rescued by helicopter from a bathroom of their home

in hard-hit Panama City after their roof collapsed, Petty Officer 3rd Class Ronald Hodges said.

In Panama City, most homes were still standing, but no property was left undamaged. Downed power lines lay nearly everywhere. Roofs had been peeled off and carried away. Aluminum siding was shredded to ribbons. Homes were split open by fallen trees. Hundreds of cars had broken windows. Twisted street signs lay on the ground. Pine trees were stripped and snapped off about 20 feet high.

In nearby Panama City Beach, Bay County Sheriff Tommy Ford reported widespread looting of homes and businesses. He imposed a curfew and asked for 50 members of the National Guard for protection. The hurricane also damaged hospitals and nursing homes in the Panama City area, and officials worked to evacuate hundreds of patients. The damage at Bay Medical Sacred Heart included blown-out windows, a cracked exterior wall and a roof collapse in a maintenance building. No patients were hurt, the hospital said.

The state mental hospital in Chattahoochee, which has a section for the criminally insane, was cut off by land, and food and supplies were being flown in, authorities said. Landlines and cellphones also were down to the complex, which has nearly 1,000 residents and more than 300 staff. They relied on emergency radios to make contact with first responders.

A man outside Tallahassee, Florida, was killed by a falling tree, and an 11-year-old girl in Georgia died when the winds picked up a carport and dropped it on her home. One of the carport's legs punctured the roof and hit her in the head. A driver in North Carolina was killed when a tree fell on his car.

As the storm made its way inland, it caused havoc in Georgia, spinning off possible tornadoes and taking down power lines and trees. Forecasters said it could drop up to 7 inches (18 centimeters) of rain over the Carolinas and Vir-

ginia before pushing out to sea Thursday night.

In North Carolina's mountains, motorists had to be rescued from cars trapped by high water.

"For North Carolina, Michael isn't as bad as Florence, but it adds unwelcome insult to injury, so we must be on alert," Gov. Roy Cooper said.

More than 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast were ordered or urged to clear out as Michael closed in. But emergency authorities lamented that many people ignored the warnings.

"Why people didn't evacuate is something we should be studying," said Craig Fugate, former director of the Federal Emergency



Firefighter Austin Schlarb performs a door to door search in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael in Mexico Beach, Fla., Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018.

Associated Press

Management Agency and a former Florida state emergency management chief.

"Is there more the government can do? But we ask that every time." □

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GOP, home to Trump and tea party, decries Dems' 'mob rule'

By ALAN FRAM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump and Senate Republicans are forecasting nightmarish Democratic "mob rule" to amp up GOP voters for next month's critical mid-term elections, flipping the script from complaints that it's Trump and the tea party movement who've boosted rowdy and divisive tactics to dangerous levels. Less than a month from voting in which GOP control of Congress is dangling precariously, Republicans are linking comments and actions by Democratic politicians, raucous protesters opposing Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination and even a gunman who shot targeted GOP lawmakers. The message to Republican voters: Democrats are employing radical tactics that are only growing worse.

"Only one side was happy to play host to this toxic fringe behavior," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Thursday in the latest GOP attack. "Only one side's leaders are now openly calling for more of it. They haven't seen enough. They want more. And I'm afraid this is only Phase One of the meltdown."

While the demonstrations were intense and some Republicans reported personal threats, liberal protesters' tactics were broadly in line with those used by groups on the left and right during particularly passionate moments in Washington. The confrontational style harkened back to protests by the conservative tea party, which included angry face-offs with lawmakers and a massive Capitol demonstration far larger than last week's rallies.

It's not unusual for Republicans and Democrats alike to sharpen their rhetoric as elections approach in hopes of drawing loyal voters to the polls. But the GOP shift to disparaging descriptions of their opponents as unruly and sinister is a marked change from their messaging before the



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky., speaks after the Republican policy luncheon on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

Kavanaugh battle, when they'd hoped to focus on the strong economy and the mammoth tax cut they pushed through Congress last December.

Both parties have detected a surge in engagement among GOP and conservative voters since the nation's attention was grabbed by the confirmation battle over Kavanaugh, including allegations of sexual misconduct that he denied. While no one knows if that energy will last until Election Day, Democratic voters driven by an animus toward Trump until now were far more motivated.

Top Republicans have acknowledged that television scenes of anti-Kavanaugh protesters berating senators and interrupting Senate debate have helped them.

"It's turned our base on fire," McConnell said about the battle, which he's called a political gift. Focusing on the "mob" has also let Republicans raise the subject without explicitly reminding voters about Kavanaugh himself, who polling showed was viewed unfav-

orably by the public.

So far, Republicans have shown no signs of abandoning that focus.

"The Democrats are willing to do anything, to hurt anyone, to get the power they so desperately crave," Trump said at a rally in Minnesota last week. He added, "They want to destroy." Democrats argue that the party of Trump and the conservative tea party has nerve to decry such behavior.

"The last time I looked, the mocker-in-chief is in the White House," said Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii. Trump drew fresh ire last week when he ridiculed Christine Blasey Ford, the first of Kavanaugh's three women accusers.

Democrats say Trump's rhetoric since launching his 2016 campaign has been provocative, pugnacious and at times racist. They cite numerous comments about Mexicans, Muslims, African countries. They also noted his statement that there were "very fine people on both sides" after an anti-Nazi demonstrator was killed by a white supremacist at a violent 2017 rally in

Charlottesville, Virginia.

No. 2 Senate Democratic leader Dick Durbin of Illinois said Thursday that his response to GOP accusations of Democratic mob tactics "is to say three words: 'Lock her up.'"

Crowds at Trump campaign rallies have long chanted that about 2016 Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. They've aimed it in recent days at Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who some Republicans have accused of leaking Ford's letter claiming sexual assault by Kavanaugh. Feinstein has denied the leak.

Grass roots tea party activists opposed to President Barack Obama's health care bill noisily disrupted lawmakers' town hall meetings across the country in summer 2009, booing and accusing Democrats of lying. One man in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, told a lawmaker that God will "judge you and the rest of your damned cronies on the Hill," while a Boston woman demanded to know, "Why do you continue to support a Nazi policy?"

That September, tens of

thousands of tea party demonstrators ringed the Capitol to protest the health care law and what they considered a wasteful, oversized federal government. That crowd, which dwarfed the hundreds or several thousand anti-Kavanaugh demonstrators, vented anger at times, shouting "Liar, liar" and waving signs including one saying, "Bury Obama Care with Kennedy," a reference to Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who had recently died.

Black lawmakers said they were targeted by racial epithets and spat upon during a smaller rally by several thousand tea party supporters in March 2010, as Congress was voting on the health care legislation. In remarks Thursday, McConnell described last week's anti-Kavanaugh protesters as "literally storming the steps of the Capitol and the Supreme Court," confronting Republicans at restaurants and airports and shouting from visitors' galleries during Senate debates. Republicans have said some received death threats and were stalked at their homes.

McConnell criticized Clinton, who said on CNN this week that "civility can start again" after Democrats capture the House or Senate in next month's elections.

He also criticized former Attorney General Eric Holder. In a video purportedly shot at a recent campaign event in Georgia, Holder says, "When they go low, we kick them," paraphrasing former first lady Michelle Obama, who famously said during the 2016 campaign, "When they go low, we go high." McConnell noted that these activities followed last year's shooting of GOP lawmakers at a morning baseball practice by "a politically crazed gunman." Gunman James Hodgkinson, killed at the scene by officers, was infuriated by Trump's election. His social media posts suggest he targeted Republicans because of his political views. □

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Washington state ends 'racially biased' death penalty

By **RACHEL LA CORTE** and
GENE JOHNSON**OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP)** — Washington's Supreme Court unanimously struck down the state's death penalty Thursday, ruling that it had been used in an arbitrary and racially discriminatory manner.

Washington has had a moratorium on executions since 2014, but the ruling makes it the 20th state to do away with capital punishment by legislative act or court decree. The court converted the sentences of the eight people on Washington's death row to life in prison.

"The death penalty is unequally applied — sometimes by where the crime took place, or the county of residence, or the available budgetary resources at any given point in time, or the race of the defendant," Chief Justice Mary Fairhurst wrote in the lead opinion.

She added: "Our capital punishment law lacks 'fundamental fairness.'"

Defense lawyers had long challenged the death penalty on those grounds, noting the state's worst mass murderers and serial killers, Green River killer Gary Ridgway among them, had received life terms, not death. In a 5-4 ruling in 2006, the justices rejected an argument from a death row inmate that he shouldn't be executed because Ridgway hadn't been executed.

This time, death penalty critics were armed with more data about how capital punishment works, including a statistical analysis by University of Washington sociologists. Their report showed that although prosecutors were not more likely to seek the execution of black defendants, juries

were about four times more likely to sentence black defendants to death.

"Now the information is plainly before us," Fairhurst wrote. "To the extent that race distinguishes the cases, it is clearly impermissible and unconstitutional."

Gov. Jay Inslee, a one-time supporter of capital punishment, imposed the 2014 moratorium. In a written statement, the Democrat called the ruling "a hugely important moment in our pursuit for equal and fair application of justice."

"The court makes it perfectly clear that capital punishment in our state has been imposed in an 'arbitrary and racially biased manner,' is 'unequally applied' and serves no criminal justice goal," Inslee wrote.

The ruling came in the case of Allen Eugene Gregory, a black man who was convicted of raping, robbing and killing Geneine Harshfield, a 43-year-old woman, in 1996.

His lawyers, Neil Fox and Lila Silverstein, said the death penalty is arbitrarily applied and that it is not applied proportionally, as the state Constitution requires.

"However one feels about the propriety of capital punishment in theory, in practice the death penalty is imposed in an unfair, arbitrary, and racially biased manner," Silverstein said in a written statement. "The Supreme Court properly ruled the Washington Constitution does not tolerate such an unfair system."

Dozens of former state judges took the unusual step of urging the court to use Gregory's case to strike down capital punishment. Among them was former Justice Faith Ireland, who sided with the narrow majority in upholding capital punishment in 2006.

In Thursday's decision, the court did not rule out the possibility that the Legislature could come up with another manner of imposing death sentences.

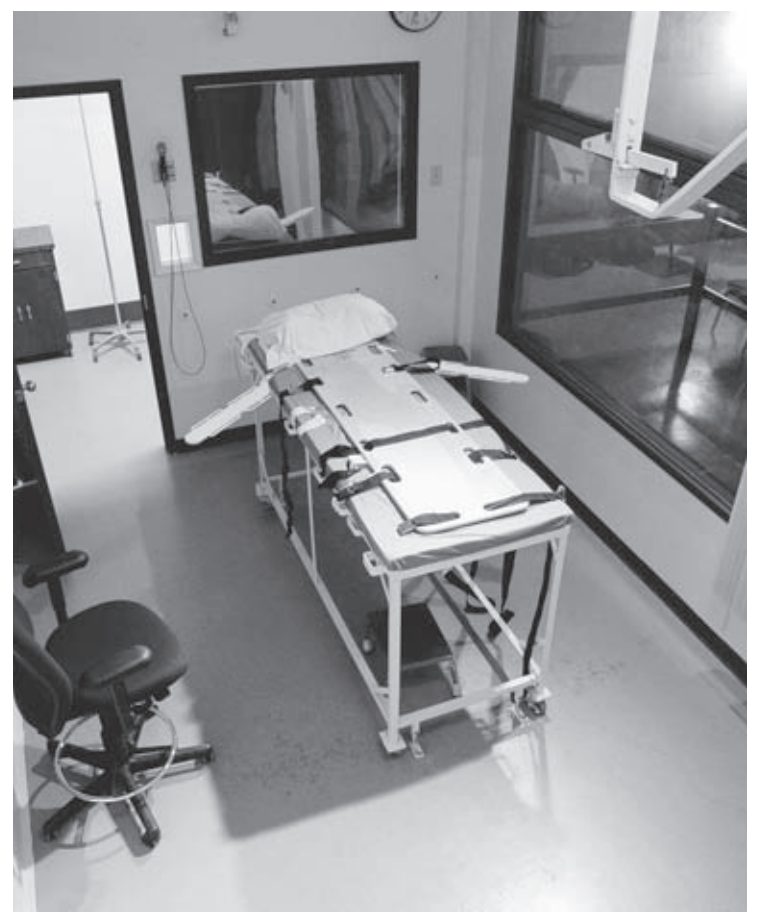
"We leave open the possibility that the legislature may enact a 'carefully drafted statute' to impose capital punishment in this state, but it cannot create a system that offends constitutional rights," the opinion said.

Attorney General Bob Ferguson said he would press the Legislature to make the sole punishment for aggravated murder life in prison without release.

The court did not reconsider any of Gregory's arguments pertaining to guilt, noting that his conviction for aggravated first-degree murder "has already been appealed and affirmed by this court."

Earlier this year, the state Senate passed a measure abolishing the death penalty, but it failed to pass in the House.

"There is a profound shift in our state and country that



In this Nov. 20, 2008, file photo, the execution chamber at the Washington State Penitentiary is shown with the witness gallery behind glass at right, in Walla Walla, Wash.

Associated Press

the death penalty is below us as a civil, just and moral society," Democratic Sen. Reuven Carlyle, who had

been a sponsor of those previous attempts, said in a text message. □

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APNewsBreak: Army expelled 500 immigrant recruits in 1 year

By **MARTHA MENDOZA AND GARANCE BURKE**
Associated Press

Over the course of 12 months, the U.S. Army discharged more than 500 immigrant enlistees who were recruited across the globe for their language or medical skills and promised a fast track to citizenship in exchange for their service, The Associated Press has found.

The decade-old Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest recruiting program was put on hold in 2016 amid concerns that immigrant recruits were not being screened sufficiently. The Army began booting out those enlistees last year without explanation.

The AP has interviewed more than a dozen recruits from countries such as Brazil, Pakistan, Iran, China and Mongolia who all said they were devastated by their unexpected discharges or canceled contracts.

Until now, it's been unclear how many were discharged and for what reason because the Army has refused to discuss specific cases. But the Army's own list, submitted to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia last month, says 502 service members who enlisted under MAVNI were discharged between July 2017 and July 2018.

The list, which was unsealed this week after a request from the AP, offers "refuse to enlist" as the reason for expelling two-thirds of the recruits. That is the reason given for 35 percent of enlistee discharges Army-wide, according to a

research study posted on a Defense Department website.

But at least one recruit whose paperwork said he was being discharged from the program for that reason said it was not accurate.

Badamsereejid Gansukh, whose recruiter told him his Turkish language skills would be an asset to the military, said he didn't know he was discharged at all until he asked his congressman's office this summer to help him figure out why his security screening was taking so long.

"I never said I refuse to enlist, not at all," Gansukh said. In fact, he said, he had opted in for another year after getting a call from his recruiter.

Upon learning he was discharged, "I just broke down," the Minnesota State University graduate said.

The Defense Department said it would not comment on individual cases.

Twenty-two percent of the discharged immigrants were told their entry-level performance and conduct was subpar, which Pentagon spokeswoman Carla Gleason said could include being injured. Ten percent — or 48 service members — were listed as being discharged because of an unfavorable security screening. This can include having family members in another country — which is typical for immigrants — or the military not completing all of the screenings in a reasonable period.

There were three discharges for apathy or personal

problems, two for having an encounter with police after enlisting, one due to pregnancy and another citing education, which could indicate a university opportunity.

Two "declined to ship" to boot camp, the list said, and two enlistees were discharged with the explanation "unknown," which the Defense Department said it could not explain.

The names of the service members and other personal information were redacted from the list to protect their privacy.

All the enlistees had committed to active duty or reserves; many had been regularly drilling and training with their recruiters in preparation for boot camp while awaiting security clearances.

If a recruit hasn't started active duty, the U.S. Army and Army National Guard have "the authority to separate the individual and terminate the contract, whether at the applicant's request or at the government's convenience," Army spokeswoman Jessica Maxwell said in a statement Wednesday.

Margaret Stock, an immigration and national security law expert who helped create the MAVNI program, said the Army is not giving enlistees their legal right to appeal.

"They are trying to get rid of people," she said.

Eligible recruits are required to have legal status in the U.S., such as a student visa, before enlisting. More than 5,000 immigrants were recruited into the program

Service Member ID	Date of Discharge	Reason for Discharge
DTP	3/26/2018	Refuse To Enlist
DTP	1/11/2018	Entry Level Performance And Conduct
DTP	10/1/2017	Entry Level Performance And Conduct
DEP	1/29/2018	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/14/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	11/21/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/28/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/28/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/28/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/8/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/28/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/6/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	8/9/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/8/2017	Refuse To Enlist
DEP	9/28/2017	Refuse To Enlist

This image shows a portion of a U.S. Army document submitted to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in September 2018 which lists 502 service members who enlisted under the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest recruiting program, and who were discharged between July 2017 and July 2018.

Associated Press

in 2016, and an estimated 10,000 are currently serving. The vast majority go into the Army, but some also go to the other military branches.

Gansukh, a first-generation immigrant from Mongolia, said he had hoped to be a part of something larger when he enlisted, and believed his service would be an honorable way to seek citizenship in his new country.

"Now I feel like I was really targeted in a way," he said. "I feel isolated from the rest of the people who are living here."

Other recruits discharged this year amid stalled security screenings were equally devastated.

"It's just like you're dropped from heaven to hell," Panshu Zhao said earlier this summer after learning he was getting kicked out. The Chinese immigrant is a Ph.D. student at Texas

A&M.

As the cases snowballed, some began suing.

In response to the litigation, the Army stopped processing discharges last month and reinstated at least three dozen recruits who had been thrown out of the service.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis told reporters late last month that he supports the MAVNI program.

"We need and want every qualified patriot willing to serve and able to serve," Mattis said. □



AP Exclusive: Costly plan aims to stem inmate overdoses

By DON THOMPSON

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— A federal official who controls medical care in California prisons wants as much as a quarter-billion dollars a year to provide medication intended to ease a record increase of fatal drug overdoses among inmates.

The plan that Clark Kelso released to The Associated Press on Thursday calls for the state to eventually provide drugs to 13,000 inmates — at a cost of as much as \$252 million — to reduce craving and euphoria while weening them off opioids.

It's the latest in years of attempts to stem overdoses that killed a record 39 California inmates last year.

Eight of every 10 California inmates is estimated to have a substance abuse disorder and about 33,000 are addicted to opioids, according to a report by Kelso's office.

Don Specter, an attorney for inmates, says Kelso's proposal would be the nation's most comprehensive program aimed at addiction among inmates.

Kelso could seek a federal court order requiring the state to spend the money but instead expects to request it from the governor and Legislature next year to expand an existing medication-assisted treatment program.

Democratic state Sen. Jim Beall of San Jose, who sits on a corrections budget oversight committee, has long pressured Kelso to add medication-assisted drug treatment.

Prison officials began treating 60 inmates with medication in addition to counseling in 2016 at Beall's urging. Preliminary results found less need for higher levels of medical and mental health care, and no positive tests for drugs or opioids.

"If it's going to cost that much that shows you how big of a problem that we have," Beall said of the ex-

panded program. He said the cost would be offset by safer prisons, fewer drug-smuggling gangs, and fewer addicted inmates cycling back to communities. "You can almost guarantee that those people are going to commit more crimes and come back into prison if they're addicted," Beall said.

As a federal receiver, Kelso oversees medical care in California prisons as part of federal court takeover prompted by poor inmate health care.

The state has spent tens of millions of dollars on past efforts to stem inmate overdoses, ranging from treatment programs to smuggling prevention. Still, the prison overdose death rate has increased in the past decade.

It's likely higher than other states, though it's hard to compare directly, said Liz Gransee, a spokeswoman for the receiver's office.

"I'm not opposed to treatment and maybe it does some good, but I would think the first priority should be interdiction" to stop the flow of drugs into prisons, said Kent Scheidegger, legal director at the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation which represents crime victims.

The problem calls for "a radically different and expanded approach," Kelso wrote about a report by his office that lays out the program and estimates its costs. Detailed planning will now take four to six months, he wrote.

Last year's 39 drug overdose deaths eclipsed the 29 deaths in 2016. Such deaths have jumped 160 percent since 2014, while hospitalizations have increased by more than half. "People are dying in prison at an alarming rate," Specter said.

His firm is part of the ongoing lawsuit over poor inmate health care that resulted in a federal court takeover of California's prison medical system in 2005. Along with medication, the

cost of Kelso's program includes about 183 nurses and social workers at all 35 state prisons, testing, equipment and training. The medications proposed for use are buprenorphine or naltrexone.

The state already spends nearly \$150 million to offer drug counseling in every prison, but the treatment lasts just five months and is available to fewer than 12,000 inmates each year. Rhode Island offers medication-assisted treatment, but California's overall program would be more comprehensive.

"It's time to start treating opioid addiction as a chronic disease, the same



In this May 20, 2015 file photo, Bentley, a 3-year-old Labrador retriever, checks an inmate for traces of narcotics at California State Prison, Solano, in Vacaville, Calif.

Associated Press

as we treat other chronic diseases, because there are medications that are effective in treating opioid disorders," said Specter,

who faulted Kelso for not acting sooner. "People are dying and will be dying in the future if something isn't done." □

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Royal Wedding redux: This time it's Princess Eugenie

By GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

WINDSOR, England (AP) —

It's time for another royal wedding at Windsor Castle — but this time it's less of a global TV spectacle and more of a family affair.

Despite large signs at the castle's ticket booth welcoming people to the wedding, many visitors seem unaware that Princess Eugenie, granddaughter of Queen Elizabeth II, will marry tequila company executive James Brooksbank Friday.

"No interest," said Michael Taylor, a drummer from Chicago who toured the imposing castle Wednesday — but didn't know a wedding was being planned on the grounds. "I don't know anything about her. If she walked past me right now, I wouldn't even know."

Eugenie is the 28-year-old daughter of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, and ninth in line for the throne. She has lived most of her life outside the media spotlight, and keeps a low profile compared to cousins Prince William and Prince



A worker mows the grass outside Windsor Castle ahead of the wedding of Britain's Princess Eugenie in Windsor, England, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018.

Associated Press

Harry and their glamorous wives.

That's reflected in the souvenir shops that line the streets leading to the imposing castle. Royal wedding merchandise fill the windows — but they feature Harry and Meghan Markle, who also married

at Windsor Castle in May in a spectacular, globally televised ceremony.

Only a few Halloween face masks feature Eugenie, though some shopkeepers say that will change in the hours ahead of her wedding.

"It's going to be shirts and some mugs. A few people have been asking for it, but compared to Harry-Meghan, it's not that big," said Salman Khan at The King and Queen gift shop. Eugenie items have been hard to find because only a few suppliers are manufacturing them, he added. "This is different, but it's still quite good for the town. The whole town is still excited. It's going to be a good day for everybody," he said.

Snippets of the wedding will be shown on British TV, but only one channel, ITV, is planning to provide live coverage of the proceedings.

Eugenie and Brooksbank are following a precedent set by Harry and Meghan by inviting 1,200 members of the public to the castle grounds for a better view of Friday's festivities.

Like Harry and Meghan, the couple will also say their vows in St. George's Chapel, a masterpiece of the "perpendicular Gothic" style with royal connections

dating back to 1475, when construction began under King Edward IV.

Afterward, the newlyweds plan a carriage ride through the streets of Windsor to give the public a chance to see them up close.

It's not clear how many visitors will come to Windsor, a riverside town about 20 miles (32 kilometers) west of London. Part of the draw will be the chance to catch a glimpse of the queen and other royals, including William and his wife Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, and their two young children, Prince George and Princess Charlotte.

George, 5, will be a page boy in the bridal party, and three-year-old Charlotte will be one of six bridesmaids. It is not clear if their youngest brother, five-month-old Prince Louis, will attend.

Harry and Meghan, a former star of the TV show "Suits", are also expected. Eugenie is following tradition by not revealing who designed her wedding gown, but she has said it will be a British designer. She has asked her older sister, Princess Beatrice, to be her maid of honor.

Eugenie has worked for several years in a fulltime position with the Hauser and Wirth art gallery in Lon-

don.

Brooksbank, 32, has asked his brother Thomas to be his best man. He and Eugenie have dated for many years.

The couple says he got down on one knee and proposed in January during a trip to Nicaragua while the couple was visiting a spectacular lake next to a volcano.

The queen, who has only just returned from an extended summer holiday in Scotland, plans to host a champagne luncheon for the newlyweds shortly after the ceremony, and a second reception will be held that night.

The luncheon with the queen is expected to be a quiet, muted affair — reflecting the 92-year-old monarch's advanced years — with the nighttime shindig seen as a chance for the younger generations to step out in style.

The presence of so many royals — and a number of celebrity guests — has prompted extra security measures to be put in place.

Police teams have been meticulously checking and sealing water drains near the castle, and sniffer dogs are checking for explosives in the royal-themed shops, restaurants and tea rooms frequented by tourists.

The royal family is paying for the wedding, but the anti-monarchist group Republic is lobbying Parliament to prevent any public money from being spent on security or other wedding-related costs.

The group says Eugenie does not carry out royal duties and that weddings are personal, private occasions, not affairs of state. It has criticized the royals for using weddings as "PR exercises" and expecting taxpayers to pick up part of the tab.

These concerns aren't popular in Windsor's business community, where the surging popularity of the royal family in recent years — and the afterglow of Harry and Meghan's wedding — has helped bring in visitors in recent months. □



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Macron too busy to rush French govt reshuffle

By SYLVIE CORBET

JOHN LEICESTER

PARIS (AP) — Emmanuel Macron won't be rushed. The 24-hour news cycle? The French leader isn't interested. At least, that's what he wants people to think. France's president is turning a government reshuffle into a soapbox against the time-pressure of modern politics and wall-to-wall news coverage.

Behind the scenes, Macron's government is struggling to quickly plug the gap left by the sudden resignation last week of his interior minister, Gerard Collomb.

But Macron and his aides are spinning the delay in appointing a replacement. The message from his office: Relax everyone.

"He makes no apologies for taking time in order to do this famous reshuffle," government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux said, just before Macron set off Wednesday afternoon for an overseas trip to Armenia that will further postpone the appointment of a new minister at least until the president's return on Friday. Collomb's resignation, to free him up to re-run as mayor of the southeastern city of Lyon, initially appeared to blind-side Macron, who tried but failed to get the minister to reconsider. His departure was so sudden that when U.S. Attorney General Jeff Ses-



French President Emmanuel Macron addresses the audience as he visits the Station F startup campus in Paris, France, Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018.

Associated Press

sions and European interior ministers gathered for a long-planned meeting to discuss anti-terrorism and other issues this week, Macron's prime minister had to be dispatched to greet them, standing in temporarily in the absence of a French interior minister.

Opposition leaders quickly argued that not swiftly replacing Collomb was symptomatic of a government in disarray. Guillaume Peltier of the right-wing Republicans asked if France "still has a captain." A "mess," sniffed far-left leader Jean-Luc Melenchon.

Sometimes proudly sporting a made-in-France watch,

on a red-white-and-blue wrist-strap, Macron likes to describe himself as the "master of the clocks." But he is almost always late—even at meetings with other heads of states. As the days without a reshuffle have stretched beyond a week, Macron has sought to use the mini-saga to signal that his schedule is his own and that he won't be pushed around.

Usually, reshuffles take a few days, at most. One reason this one is taking longer may be that Macron has equilibriums to maintain. Recruiting more men than women to his administration would violate his prom-

ise of equality between the sexes. Recruiting too heavily from the left or right wings of French politics would risk tilting his government too far from its centrist, middle-way axis. And background checks have to be conducted to ensure that candidates don't have legal or other skeletons in their closet that could soil Macron in the same way that ugly scandals undermined previous French administrations.

In short, Macron is far too busy to be rushed.

"He takes responsibility for breaking with usual practices when some were changing the minister of so-

and-so within a few hours, moving him from one ministry to another," Griveaux said. "He said, with his own words, that ministers were not objects on shelves but people with whom it was necessary to have an extensive dialogue before deciding to give them the important mission we have started of transforming the country."

So hold the presses.

As 24-hour news channels have breathlessly speculated about who might be shuffled to which ministry and talked of a possible split between Macron and his prime minister over candidates, the French leader took a sunset stroll on Tuesday evening along the banks of the Seine River, where lovers have long hoped that time will stand still.

A journalist who seemingly happened to luck across the unusual scene snapped Macron walking ahead of his bodyguards, a mobile phone glued to his ear. "Crisis? What crisis?" the image seemed to say. Macron has even coined a phrase — the "tyranny of immediacy" — to describe his manifest refusal to become enslaved by the tick-tock, tick-tock of the right-here, right-now. Defending the right to take one's time all seems very French, fitting with France's fondness for leisure, for two-hour lunches and slow food. □



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Saudi crown prince's carefully managed rise hides dark side

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — In a kingdom once ruled by an ever-aging rotation of elderly monarchs, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman stands out as the youthful face of a youthful nation. But behind the carefully calibrated public-relations campaign pushing images of the smiling prince meeting with the world's top leaders and business executives lurks a darker side. Last year, at age 31, Mohammed became the kingdom's crown prince, next in line to the throne now held by his octogenarian father, King Salman. While pushing for women to drive, he has overseen the arrest of women's rights activists. While calling for foreign investment, he has imprisoned businessmen, royals and others in a crackdown on corruption that soon resembled a shakedown of the kingdom's most powerful people.

As Saudi defense minister from the age of 29, he pursued a war in Yemen against Shiite rebels that began a month after he took the helm and wears on today.

What the crown prince chooses next likely will affect the world's largest oil producer for decades to come. And as the disappearance and feared death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul may show, the young prince will brook no dissent in reshaping the kingdom in his image.

"I don't want to waste my time," he told Time Magazine in a cover story this year. "I am young."

Khashoggi, a U.S. resident who wrote several columns for The Washington Post critical of Prince Mohammed, disappeared Oct. 2 on a visit to the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Turkish officials have offered no evidence, but say they fear the writer was killed and dismembered by a Saudi team of 15 men — an operation that, if carried out, would have to have been authorized by the top of



In this March 22, 2018, file photo, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman meets with U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis at the Pentagon in Washington.

Associated Press

the Al Saud monarchy. The kingdom describes the allegation as "baseless," but has provided no proof that Khashoggi ever left the consulate.

For decades in Saudi Arabia, succession passed down among the dozens of sons of the kingdom's founder, King Abdul-Aziz. And, over time, the sons have grown older and older upon reaching the throne.

When King Salman took power in January of 2015 and quickly appointed Prince Mohammed as defense minister, it took the kingdom by surprise, especially given the importance of the position and the prince's age. He was little-known among the many grandchildren of Saudi Arabia's patriarch.

As defense minister, he en-

tered office facing a crisis in Yemen, which lies south of the kingdom. Shiite rebels known as Houthis had overrun the country's capital, Sanaa. Claiming that the Houthis were backed by Iran, Saudi Arabia launched a coalition war against them.

The coalition has faced widespread criticism for its airstrikes hitting clinics and marketplaces, which have killed civilians.

For Prince Mohammed, the conflict remains part of what he sees as an existential struggle between Saudi Arabia and Iran for the future of the Middle East.

"We won't wait for the battle to be in Saudi Arabia," the prince told the Saudi-owned broadcasting company MBC last year. "Instead, we will work so that the battle is for them in Iran,

not in Saudi Arabia."

His aggressive posture against Iran has won the support of U.S. President Donald Trump and his administration, which pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal struck by President Barack Obama, whom the kingdom deeply distrusted.

Before becoming crown prince, Prince Mohammed visited the White House and forged a close relationship with Trump son-in-law Jared Kushner. Trump made Riyadh his first stop overseas as president, a visit complete with Arab pageantry and opulence. Saudi Arabia soon embarked on the prince's ambitious proposal to allow women in the ultraconservative Wahhabi nation to drive. The resulting pictures of women in long black abayas behind the wheel

represented a public-relations coup for the image-shaping firms employed by the kingdom, as did footage of women attending soccer matches and movie theaters for the first time in decades.

But then, the kingdom rounded up and imprisoned women's rights activists, including reportedly grabbing one woman who was in the neighboring United Arab Emirates.

Prince Mohammed has wowed the business world with promises of an initial public offering for the state oil behemoth Saudi Arabian Oil Co., known as Saudi Aramco, suggesting it would have a \$2 trillion valuation.

The young prince has traveled across the U.S. as part of his business pitch, meeting leaders like former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Amazon billionaire Jeff Bezos. Prince Mohammed also hosted a major business summit at Riyadh's Ritz Carlton, complete with a humanoid robot named Sophia being awarded Saudi citizenship. Only weeks later, the hotel turned into a luxury prison as part of a mass arrest of businessmen, royals and others orchestrated by Prince Mohammed in a move described as targeting corruption. Those released agreed to sign over some of their assets, giving it the feel of a shakedown. "If I have the power and the king has the power to take action against influential people, then you are already fundamentally strong," Prince Mohammed told CBS earlier this year.

The opaqueness of the Al Saud royal family makes it difficult to see what effect the Khashoggi affair is having at home. State television continues to air footage of Mohammed attending meetings and greeting officials as if all is normal.

Analysts say he has the full protection of the throne's powers.

Once asked if anything could stop him, the prince gave a two-word reply: "Only death." □



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Indian troops kill a key Kashmir rebel leader and colleague

By AIJAZ HUSSAIN

SRINAGAR, India (AP) —

A Kashmiri scholar-turned rebel leader and his colleague were killed Thursday in a gunbattle with Indian troops, police and residents said, sparking violent anti-India protests by residents in the disputed region.

The incident could spark more unrest in a region that in recent years has witnessed renewed rebel attacks and public resistance against Indian rule.

Indian troops laid siege to a village in northwestern Handwara area early Thursday on a tip that militants were hiding there, police said. As counterinsurgency police and soldiers launched a search operation, a gunfight erupted in which two rebels were killed.

Authorities shut down internet service on mobile phones and ordered the closure of schools in several places in the region fearing student protests.

Anti-India protests and clashes erupted as the fighting raged, with hundreds of residents trying to march to the site in solidarity with the militants. Government forces fired warning shots, shotgun pellets and tear gas at the stone-throwing protesters, injuring at least four people.

The gunbattle ended later Thursday morning and soldiers immediately recovered the bodies of the two militants, but authorities withheld their identities for several hours, a common practice to give police and soldiers time to deploy at key positions to counter possible anti-India protests and clashes.

Muneer Khan, a senior police officer, said one of the slain was identified by his parents as top rebel leader Manan Wani, the newspa-



In this Aug. 14, 2018 file photo, an Indian paramilitary soldier stands guard during a search operation in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir.

Associated Press

per Greater Kashmir reported.

Wani was pursuing a doctorate in geology at an Indian university but abandoned his research in January to join the Hizbul Mujahideen, Kashmir's largest rebel group. He soon became a household name and attained the status of a thinker among the rebels, writing articles about such things as why he preferred guns over pens and the nature of the fight in one of the world's most heavily militarized regions.

Separatist leaders who challenge India's sovereignty over Kashmir called for a general strike on Friday in honor of Wani.

"Deeply pained that we lost a budding intellectual and writer like him" who fought "for the cause of self-determination," Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, a top Kashmiri leader, said in a tweet.

Indian security officials called Wani's killing a major achievement in fighting militancy. Later Thursday,

tens of thousands of people took part in Wani's funeral while chanting anti-India and pro-militant slogans such as "Go India, go back" and "We want freedom."

In one of his articles, Wani likened military occupation to a disease. "Occupation is like a cancer. ... We as a nation and community have to evolve and update ourselves of the new military, mental and diplomatic tactics of India as a colonial state."

He argued for the use of arms in fighting India, calling it self-defense.

"Violence is not that we have picked up guns to fight occupation but violence is the presence of ... Indian armed men in Kashmir ... occupation in itself is the biggest violence. □

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Cuban constitutional reform spawns unusual public debate

HAVANA (AP) — In a country with no opinion polls, campaigns or independent mass media, a series of meetings on reforming Cuba's constitution has spawned a highly unusual debate on the island's political system and values.

At a half-dozen public forums attended by Associated Press journalists this month, Cubans repeatedly called for direct election of the president and other officials. And many objected to a constitutional amendment that would allow gays and lesbians to marry, a project promoted by the highly influential daughter of Communist Party head Raul Castro.

The government convened thousands of block-level meetings over a nearly two-month period of "popular consultation" on a draft of the new constitution already approved by the Communist Party and National Assembly. The single-party government is now supposed to review public comments and incorporate suggestions into a final version before putting it to a popular referendum on Feb. 24.

The extent to which suggestions will be included in the final document presents a test for a government that is at once autocratic, highly opaque and sensitive to shifts in public opinion.

"The president of the country should be elected by direct vote of the population, choosing between various candidates," Reinaldo Gonzalez said during a meeting in Havana's relatively prosperous Vedado



In this Sept. 30, 2018 photo, residents gather for a public forum on constitutional reform in Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

neighborhood. "We don't need multiparty democracy, but we should have direct elections." Like others who spoke at the meetings, he provided his name but no other personal details. The president of Cuba is now selected by the National Assembly, whose members are themselves chosen by government-controlled commissions. The public then gives them "yes" or "no" votes that rarely dip below 95 percent approval.

The nation's top post was held for nearly 50 years by Fidel Castro, the leader of Cuba's 1959 socialist revolution. His brother Raul then held power for a decade before handing the reins to his hand-picked successor, Miguel Diaz-Canel. The current constitution went into

effect in 1976.

"There was only one Fidel," said Onelio Nelson Garcia during a meeting in Havana's Playa district. He called for future presidents to be chosen through direct election to avoid the ascendancy of "satraps or demagogues."

Vilma de la Rosa said she was concerned that the new constitution would give the Communist Party more power than the National Assembly.

The draft constitution currently under debate contains a series of changes that, while important, appear to fall far short of any sort of sweeping reform. The document creates formal roles for foreign investment and private property that seem to mostly recognize existing changes in

Cuba, which has been undergoing halting and limited market reforms over the last decade.

Other changes are focused on the island's massive bureaucracy, and include items such as creating the new posts of prime minister and provincial governor.

Many Cubans believe the reform is meant to cement the current system in place before the death or retirement of the still-ruling generation of Castro-era revolutionary fighters.

The most controversial amendment is one allowing gay and lesbian marriage. Under Mariela Castro's leadership of the country's institute of sexual health and education, Cuba has moved away from longtime persecution of homosexuals to the im-

age of a government that's progressive on gay rights, particularly as compared with other Caribbean and Latin American nations.

But many Cubans remain deeply wary of increased rights for gays and lesbians. "Nature says marriage should be between a man and a woman," said Hilario Brache, who described himself as a devoted revolutionary.

"Anyone following this debate realizes how people overseas underestimate the extent of debate and popular feedback in the Cuban system," said Arturo Lopez-Levy, a Cuban-born and educated professor of international relations at Gustavus Adolphus College, Minnesota.

The meetings on the constitution take place in government meeting rooms and parks across Cuba. Many participants carry printed cards with the 224 articles of the proposed constitution. After standing for the national anthem, speakers share their opinions while a secretary takes notes to be sent in some form to the constitutional reform commission headed by Raul Castro.

Constitutional lawyer Julio Fernandez Estrada said the consultation process had been overwhelmingly positive, but he was concerned about the extent to which popular feedback would actually be included in the final draft going before the people in February. "The consultations have shown that the Cuban people are informed and know what they want," he said. □

LOCAL



Students of EPI and University present: 'Eat to Educate @Aruba's Global Culinary Experience'



ORANJESTAD — Dean John Wardlaw of the University of Aruba, faculty FHTMS, has a perfect way to describe the upcoming event to Aruba Today: "This is to the benefit of the Horeca students of College EPI and the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies (FHTMS). Thanks to our sponsors the students will be guided to prepare an exquisite taster station experience. The partners within the tourism industry acknowledge the importance of educating the next generation, their future employees." Wardlaw is referring to the 'Eat to Educate' event, taking place tomorrow evening at the University of Aruba.

Following last year's very successful Al Fresco Fund Raising Dinner, the students of EPI HORECA and the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies (FHTMS) are again, under the initiative and guidance of Marin Bijl and the Food and Beverage staff of Divi and Tamarijn All Inclusive Resort along with

new participating partners, preparing another wonderful evening for the Aruban community.

This event will be slightly different, instead of the five-course paired dinner, this year there will be taster stations, introducing the guest to the delicate tastes of a variety of global culinary regions. The foods will be paired with an assortment of wines and other beverages that will titillate the taste buds.

The event will take place in the spectacular garden of the university, the building is housed in the historic and beautiful de La Salle Building. The students will prepare a wonderful night for 200 guests where a world of culinary experiences is offered. There are tasting stations with typical dishes from Aruba, The Netherlands, Asia, Italy and the Mediterranean. Paired wines are to enjoy and a mixologist will present more sophisticated drinks during the evening.

As Wardlaw explained, this event has a dual goal. In the first place it means an opportunity to the students to practice their skills and experience how to organize an event from the beginning to the end. The set-up of the menu, the groceries, the preparing of the dishes, the set-up of the tables, the serving and the break-down are all included into the process they will go through and this experience will only take them further in their study. The second goal of the event is to get funding for the faculty's field trips and culinary activities of both EPI and the university to comply with the concept 'experiential learning'. Within the global industry there are many examples of projects like these, like South Beach Food & Wine Festival organized by Florida International University (FIU).

"The first event turned out to be a hit where the students learned a lot and the result was more participation of partners within the

industry. In the long term events like these result in a closer collaboration between partners and educational institutes so both sides are in benefit." The organization is grateful to Marin Bijl, GM of Divi & Tamarijn for the vision and endless support to make this event again happen. Also the staff of the resort has done a tremendous job in assisting. Sponsors of this evening are: Eventions, Angelo Koolman, Sharp Productions, Sunny Ray Aruba, Arion Wine, Tropical Bottling, Divio Pepia Est, Gianni's Group, La Cava, Vibrations PR, Romar Trading y Aruba Trading.

Students and staff of EPI Horeca and UA FHTMS invite the community to experience a culinary trip in a great ambiance while at the same time supporting the education on the island. The evening will start at 7 PM and last until 10.30 PM. You will be welcomed with a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres as well as music by Angelo Koolman featuring Bamboo Band. Tickets are available through Dean John Wardlaw email: jjwardlaw@hotmail.com, john.wardlaw@ua.aw (+297 526-2240) or Mrs. JoAnne Croes email: jo-anne.croes@ua.aw or WhatsApp (+297 592-1274). □



National Risk Assessment



ORANJESTAD — A team from the Financial Market Integrity Unit of the World Bank Group is in Aruba to assist the authorities in undertaking a National Risk Assessment on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing. The working group for the National Risk Assessment is led by Ms. Kiki van der Werf of the Centrale Bank van Aruba.

The assessment aims to identify the primary money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) risks in Aruba through a comprehensive analysis that will enable the design of a fitting strategy and mitigating actions. This will help allocate resources for the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing more effectively and efficiently, while meeting international standards as established by e.g., the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

understanding the underlying methodology and using the tool. This way, Aruba will also build the capacity to undertake future risk assessments with no or minimal external support. The self-assessment methodology supports collaboration between the different government agencies and private sector parties that are jointly responsible for the country's anti-money laundering and counter terrorism financing efforts.

The risk assessment process itself is organized, led and undertaken by the national authorities using the World Bank Group's self-assessment tool. The World Bank Group will assist Aruba during this visit in

The World Bank Group has supported over eighty countries in performing their national risks assessments since 2010. □



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The Stanizzo's love Aruba

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Emely Ridderstaat of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Mr. John & Mrs. Lois Stanizzo, who have been coming to Aruba for 18 consecutive years and are staying at the Divi Village Aruba. This trip is a special one since they are celebrating their anniversary. The honorees love spending the day at the beach.

Emely together with representatives of Divi Village Aruba presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



Rancho Foundation celebrates its 2nd anniversary



ORANJESTAD — Upcoming Sunday October 14th, CAR (Centre of Activities Rancho) celebrates its 2 years existence. They are inviting the community of Rancho and the rest of Aruba to come and celebrate with them. CAR was born out of Rancho Foundation and their goal is to unite the community of the Rancho area using social and cultural projects.

On the Tuesday October 16th CAR will open its door to one and all, the event will take place from 6 pm to 8 pm. During this event the president of Rancho Foundation Mr. Clifford Rosa, will elaborate on CAR and its role for the community. Also at this event there'll be different books and picture frames available for sale.

Besides that, there'll also be

- Visual Art Exposition
- Information Desk (where you can sign up as a volunteer)
- Donation Box
- Fully stocked bar & kitchen

For more info visit their website www.stichtingrancho.org or check out their Facebook page "Centro Di Actividad Rancho". □

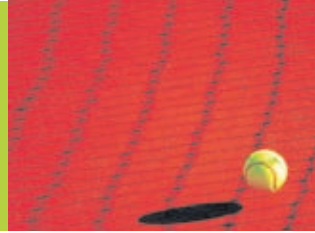


Travel Tips

**Aeropuerto Internacional
Reina Beatrix**
ARUBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY N.V.

1. When checking-in, you will always need your valid passport, along with your ticket, e-ticket receipt or e-ticket confirmation. For some countries a Visa is also required.
2. For all US-bound departures, check-in three hours before your scheduled departure time.
3. For all US-bound flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the left side of building; follow the signs and head towards local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates. Aruba Airport provides full US Pre-Clearance service.
4. For all Non US departures, check-in may vary between airlines and destinations; always consult your airline for more information. Being at the airport 3 hours before your departure flight is always safe.
5. For all Non US flights, after check-in, leave building through the exit on the right side of building; follow the signs and head towards Local immigrations, main security screening, shopping area and the departure gates.
6. If traveling with a carry-on, there are restrictions on liquids, gels and aerosols you can carry in your carry-on luggage. Always check with your airline on limitations.
7. Always check the weight limit of your baggage; excess weight may result in penalty fees.
8. Always label your bags and suitcases with your name, address and phone number.
9. Always leave all carry-on items unlocked while passing through screening points to not cause delays if these need to be inspected.
10. Avoid wearing big belt buckles, clothing with metal buttons, lots of jewelry etc. when traveling. If you have these on, remove all metal items and place these in a tray for screening. It is advisable to put all metal items in your carry-on luggage until you clear security. This will help speed up the process.
11. Remove shoes at checkpoint and place in tray for x-ray machine screening.
12. All electronic items should be placed in tray outside their case for x-ray screening.
13. Avoid packing foods and beverages in your check-in baggage. When traveling to the US, you have to comply with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. More information <https://www.usda.gov/>.
14. If traveling with medication, please pack these in your carry-on luggage in their original packaging.
15. If you medical documentation, present this to the security checkpoint screener to inform them. The documentation is not required and will not exempt you from the screening process.
16. Take note of inadmissible items such as sharp objects, sporting goods, guns and firearms, martial arts and self-defense items, tools, explosive materials, flammable items, disabling chemicals and other items when traveling. More information available on www.airportaruba.com.

SPORTS



In this Jan. 24, 2015, file photo, Former Kansas State basketball coach Tex Winter smiles when greeted in the crowd during the first half of the team's NCAA college basketball game against Oklahoma State in Manhattan, Kan.

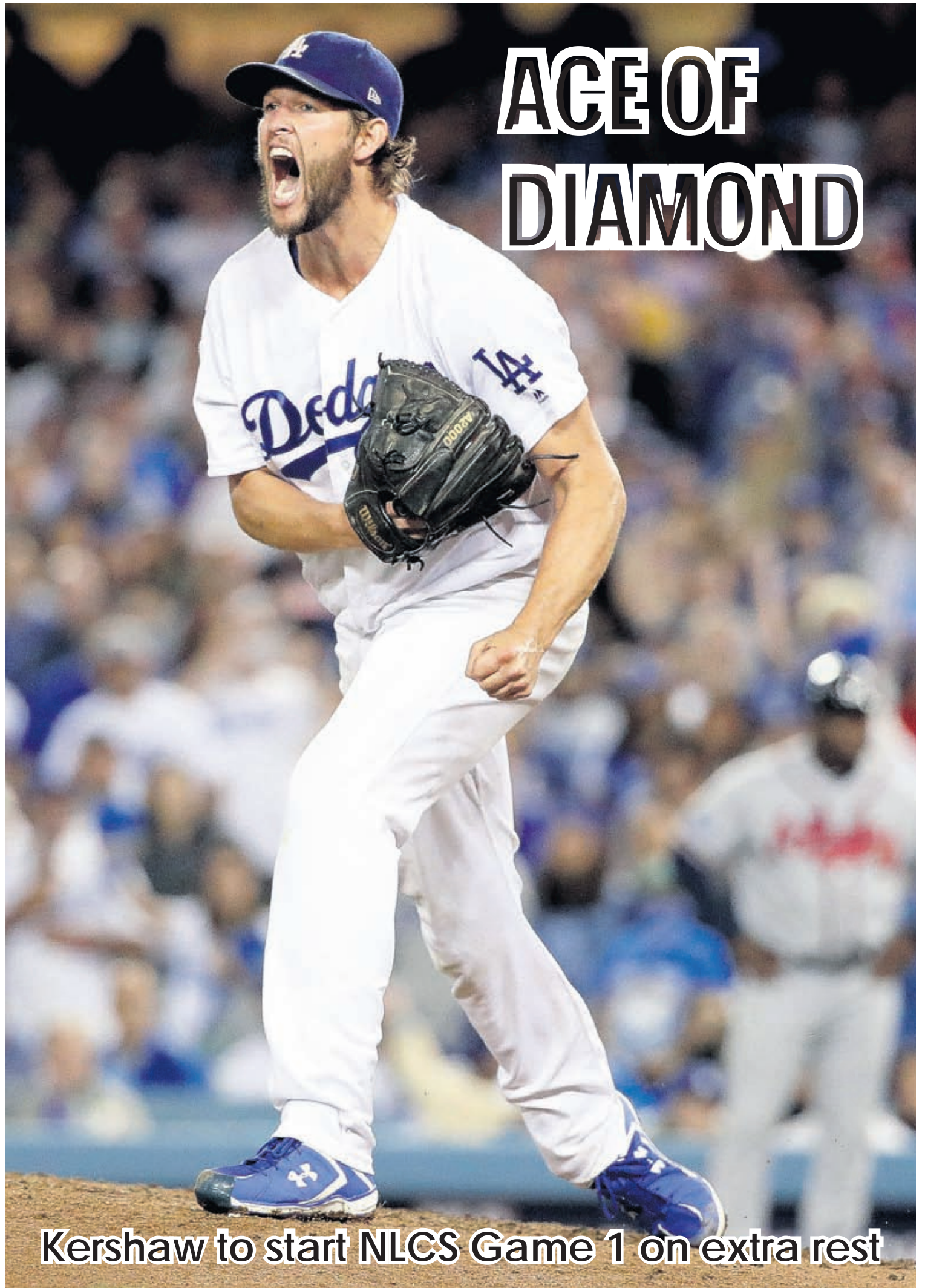
Associated Press

Tex Winter, innovative basketball coach, dead at 96

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Tex Winter, the innovative "Triangle Offense" pioneer who assisted Phil Jackson on NBA championship teams with the Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Lakers, has died. He was 96. Winter's family said he died Wednesday in Manhattan, where he began his coaching career at Kansas State in 1947 and led the Wildcats to two Final Fours and eight Big Seven/Eight titles as head coach from 1954-68.

"I learned so much from Coach Winter. He was a pioneer and a true student of the game," Michael Jordan said in a statement emailed to the Chicago Tribune. "His triangle offense was a huge part of our six championships with the Bulls. He was a tireless worker."

Continued on Page 22



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw reacts to a pitch during the eighth inning of Game 2 of the baseball team's National League Division Series against the Atlanta Braves on Friday, Oct. 5, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press
Page 19

Dodging nerves, skier Shiffrin vows to enjoy ride



In this Thursday, Feb. 22, 2018 file photo, United States' Mikaela Shiffrin competes in the women's combined slalom at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Jeongseon, South Korea.

Associated Press

By **PAT GRAHAM**
AP Sports Writer

On particularly stressful occasions, Mikaela Shiffrin can feel the anxiety build moments before her run. Her throat tightens, and her eyes water. Her suit feels way too tight, and her stomach churns.

As a teenager, the two-time defending overall World Cup champion never experienced this level of nervousness before a race. Lately, that pressure has sometimes engulfed her. It first struck two years ago at an event and she thought it was just the flu. The feeling has overtaken her during several more races, including the Olympic slalom at the Pyeongchang Games last February when she finished fourth.

This season, she's trying something new after talking to a friend who doubles as a sports psychologist: Tune out expectations, enjoy the ride.

"If I'm thinking about whatever everybody is expecting, it ruins it and that's silly," the three-time Olympic medalist said in a phone in-

terview ahead of the World Cup season-opening giant slalom race on Oct. 27 in Soelden, Austria. "I'm taking a minute to appreciate where I actually am in the sport."

The 23-year-old from Avon, Colorado, is coming off a season in which she won 12 races on her way to a second straight overall title. She earned two medals in South Korea, including gold in the giant slalom and silver during the combined. Recently, she got to meet tennis standout Roger Federer. Now that was nerve-wracking.

"I was sweaty and my hands were clammy," she laughed. "He's so cool." For the upcoming season, she's taking on another role — leader.

In years past, she hasn't spent all that much time with the downhill team since she also had to fit in slalom and giant slalom training. But she recently attended a speed camp with the U.S. squad in Chile, joining the likes of Laurene Ross, Alice Merryweather

and for a brief time Lindsey Vonn, who begins this season five wins away from breaking Ingemar Stenmark's record for most by a World Cup ski racer.

The group shared tips and tactics, something Shiffrin has been reluctant to do in the past because she didn't view herself as a speed racer. That changed with a downhill win in Lake Louise, Alberta, last December. No more basic course reports relayed up the mountain to teammates.

"I would call up and be like, 'Everything is great. The sun is shining. The birds are chirping. Have a good time,'" Shiffrin said. "I didn't want to say anything that could possibly be misinterpreted. Now I feel more comfortable with my speed knowledge and experience."

Mention the Olympics and she audibly exhales.

At the Pyeongchang Games, Shiffrin was the favorite to win not one, but multiple medals. Especially in the slalom, which she captured at the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

She embraced the pressure. Then, the weather played havoc with the Olympic schedule and led to changes.

Nerves crept in.

Shiffrin started things off strong by taking gold in the giant slalom. The next day was the slalom, her signature event. The anxiety struck and she threw up before her first run. In the second pass, she was too cautious and finished a spot off the podium in a race won by Frida Hansdotter of Sweden. Shiffrin had nothing left in the tank, not even emotions.

"I felt indifferent," Shiffrin said. "That's when I know I'm tired. That I need to get some rest. But rest was the one thing I knew I couldn't get during the Olympics." She pulled out of the super-G and downhill events to conserve energy for the combined, where she earned a silver medal.

Two medals — a nice haul from South Korea. Two medals, though, wasn't five.

"Everyone was talking about five medals, and I

was always like, 'Yeah, I'm not going to say it's completely out of the question,'" Shiffrin said. "But I wasn't expecting to win five medals. I wasn't expecting to win a single medal. Given what my true expectations and goals were for the Olympics, it was wildly successful. 'I come back home and people who don't see ski racing on daily basis or a yearly basis see the Olympic articles, 'Mikaela Shiffrin is a five-medal threat.' For them, (two medals) was a disappointment. I let the country down somehow.' That's where her friend/sports psychologist came in handy.

"She knew me before I had nerves and knew my mentality and how I tick and how I'm driven," Shiffrin said. "She can remind me of that. It's been really, really helpful."

Her mom, Eileen, will accompany her to races, but maybe not to all of them as in the past. Shiffrin doesn't want to overburden her mom because of the racer's frenetic schedule.

"She wasn't in Chile the last two weeks and I missed her," Shiffrin said. "I missed her as my friend and as my mom and I really missed her as one of my coaches." Over the summer, Shiffrin appeared on Maxim's "Hot 100" list. Unlike other photos, Shiffrin was wearing a ski jacket — and donning her two medals from South Korea.

"I got to speak my own truth about what beauty is. It doesn't have to be women in bikinis," Shiffrin said. "Maybe society's image of women and beauty is changing a little bit? Maybe it's being a little bit more inclusive?"

As for the anxiety, she definitely feels she has a handle on it. "I'm taking steps toward being happy with myself and not needing justification from another person," Shiffrin said. "I don't need someone else telling me, 'Hey, you're doing great' in order to sleep at night. I can sleep just fine."

"I'm happy with myself. I love my family. I love my job. I love ski racing. Everything is just fine." □

What a relief: Dodgers next up for Brewers' lights-out 'pen

By GENARO C. ARMAS

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Build an early lead, get five good innings out of the starter and bring in the bullpen.

The Milwaukee Brewers used that formula to win 11 straight games going into the NL Championship Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Clayton Kershaw could be the ace that finally puts a stop to the streak.

The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner will start for Los Angeles in Game 1 on Friday night at Miller Park.

"We know we're not going to get a ton of opportunities" against Kershaw and Dodgers starting pitching, outfielder Ryan Braun said. "So we've talked about the importance of cashing in on the opportunities we do get."

Once the Brewers take a lead, they're hard to beat. Good luck getting to their lights-out bullpen.

Milwaukee's 3.47 ERA in relief was second in the NL only to the Chicago Cubs. The bullpen went 2-0 with a save and a 1.17 ERA in the three-game Division Series sweep Colorado.

Corey Knebel can come in as soon as the fifth, usually lights-out left-hander Josh Hader in just about situation and Jeremy Jeffress in the late innings. All three relievers are capable of closing.

Knebel and Hader are making their postseason debuts, while Jeffress' play-off experience before this year was limited to just one inning in 2016 with Texas.

"I thought it was going to be a lot different," Knebel said Thursday of the playoffs. "The first time I came in, I felt the same surprisingly. ... Hey it's just another game. That's all it is. You just want to keep playing ball."

The spotlight probably won't faze the Dodgers, who are in a third straight NLCS for the first time in franchise history. The strategy at the plate doesn't change, either, just be-

cause Milwaukee's relievers are so good.

Knebel, Hader and Jeffress, along with righty Joakim Soria, appeared in all three games against Colorado spread out over four days. The NLCS is best-of-seven, with the first four games over five days, so bullpen usage could differ.

"When you're talking about a seven-game series," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said, "having those guys go to their 'pen and taxing them and beating the starter, there's still a lot of value in that."

Chasing the starter will require building an early lead that might require the Brewers to dip into his bullpen earlier or more often than planned.

"If they go bullpen game, like they did against the Rockies, it's a seven-game set," Dodgers infielder Max Muncy said. "It's more games you're putting stress on the bullpen."

Other notes and things to watch:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pressure in the NLCS? Maybe not for the Dodgers, who lost Game 7 of the World Series to the Houston Astros a year ago. Now that's pressure.

"We want to finish off what we didn't finish off last year. That's been their focus since after that Game 7," Roberts said. "We're in a position right now where we can give ourselves an opportunity to get back there."

MVP WATCH

Outfielder Christian Yelich, making his postseason debut, hit .250 with a homer and two RBIs with two steals in the NLDS. The smooth-hitting left-hander went on a tear in the second half, hitting .367 after the All-Star break with 25 homers to help lift the Brewers to the NL Central crown.

When the series shifts to Dodger Stadium next week, the southern California native will be playing in a park where he used to watch games as a child.



Milwaukee Brewers' Christian Yelich warms up for practice for Game 1 of the National League Championship Series baseball game Los Angeles Dodgers Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018, in Milwaukee. Associated Press

START IT UP

No bullpen day to open up the series for the Brewers. Milwaukee is going with left-hander Gio Gonzalez to oppose Kershaw in Game 1 on Friday night. For Gonzalez, it has been quite a rebound since being acquired in a deal with the Washington Nationals, going 3-0 with a 2.13 ERA in five starts with Milwaukee.

"So to sit here, and I'm

pitching Game 1 of the second round, I think it's remarkable, pretty incredible," Gonzalez said, "and hopefully I get to tell my kids about this one day."

An 11-year veteran, Gonzalez is 4-1 with a 1.89 ERA in six career starts against the Dodgers.

CY KERSHAW

One of the toughest left-handers in baseball, Kershaw (9-5, 2.73) hasn't been

quite as good in his career in the NLCS. He is 2-4 with a 4.65 ERA in five career starts in this round.

BACK WHERE IT STARTED

The NLCS will begin in the park where All-Star Manny Machado made his Dodgers' debut. After Machado was acquired at the All-Star break from the Orioles, the Dodgers opened up the second half of the season at Miller Park. □

OCTOBER 2018

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Kuznetsov's 4-point night helps Capitals beat Golden Knights

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Evgeny Kuznetsov continued his dominance against the Vegas Golden Knights, scoring a goal and assisting on three more as part of a 5-2 Washington Capitals victory Wednesday night in a rematch of last season's Stanley Cup Final.

Kuznetsov assisted on two goals by Alex Ovechkin and one by Nicklas Backstrom and scored his own on the power play. The leading scorer in the Cup Final with eight points in five games, Kuznetsov has seven points through the defending champions' first three games of the regular season.

Coming off a 49-goal season and a Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP, Ovechkin has four goals in three games. The 610th and 611th goals of his career put him in sole possession of 17th on the NHL's career list, passing Bobby Hull. Braden Holtby stopped 29 of 31 shots and bailed out his teammates during an especially sloppy second period. Holtby allowed goals to Cody Eakin in the



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, celebrates his goal during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Vegas Golden Knights, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press

second period and Reilly Smith in the third.

Vegas goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury, who wanted to start this game instead of facing his former team in Pittsburgh on Thursday night, allowed four goals

on 28 shots. His teammates hit the post a handful of times and went 0 for 3 on the power play and are 0 for 11 so far this season.

The Golden Knights fell to 1-3-0 at the beginning of their second season. They

didn't lose their third game in their inaugural season until Halloween when they started 8-3-0.

COYOTES 3, DUCKS 2, SO ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Nick Cousins scored in the shootout, Antti Raanta

made 23 saves and the Coyotes earned their first win of the season.

Dylan Strome and Brad Richardson scored for Arizona (1-2), which dropped its first 11 games last season. The Coyotes got their first goal this season when Strome converted a power-play opportunity with 2 1/2 minutes left in the first. They were the last NHL team to score. Anaheim was trying for the first 4-0 start in franchise history. Ryan Kesler and Ben Street scored for the Ducks (3-0-1), and John Gibson made 37 saves.

FLYERS 7, SENATORS 4 OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Jakub Voracek and Scott Laughton scored two goals apiece, and Philadelphia rebounded from an embarrassing loss to beat Ottawa. Sean Couturier, Robert Hagg and Claude Giroux also scored for the Flyers, who were coming off an 8-2 loss to the San Jose Sharks in their home opener a night earlier. Calvin Pickard stopped 31 shots.

Brady Tkachuk scored his first NHL goal and finished with two goals and an assist for Ottawa. □



The CrystalBetting sports betting terminal is on display at the IGT booth during the Global Gaming Expo, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Major League Baseball and the casino industry are entrenched in their views on a league proposal to get a cut from wagers placed on the sport following the repeal of a federal ban on sports betting earlier this year.

Representatives from both industries vigorously de-

fended their believed right over the money wagered Wednesday during a panel at the casino industry's top trade show in Las Vegas. The MLB and other pro leagues have asked for a percentage of the wagers, and casinos have strongly opposed any direct payments.

Kenny Gersh, the league's executive vice president of gaming, told the crowd

of casino executives that a proposed 0.25 percent fee — which some have dubbed an "integrity fee" — is essentially a royalty that casino companies should pay if they are going to make money off of the sport. He defended it as a case of "fairness" and partnership with casino operators.

"The state is going to designate these three, four, five very specific licensed entities: You guys get the right to make money from sports betting," he said. "From a fairness perspective we think, if you are going to designate someone to be able to make money off of what at the end of the day is our sport and our events because if the Yankees weren't playing the

Red Sox last night, you are not betting on the Yankees and the Red Sox ... we think we should be involved in that."

A U.S. Supreme Court decision in May allowed states to legalize sports betting. Sports books have since then opened in New Jersey, West Virginia and other states. Professional sports leagues have failed so far to convince any state to build the fees into their laws. Nevada, which has offered sports betting for years, does not pay an integrity fee.

"I mean, look, you want a cut of the revenue without any of the risk that's associated with it," Sara Slane, senior vice president of public affairs at the American Gaming Asso-

ciation, countered during the Global Gaming Expo. "That's why we have to go through the regulatory process. We invest billions of dollars in buildings, in our licenses that cost us millions of dollars to go through. You want us to take that risk, pay you and then you are going to benefit on the back end as well ... What you guys are proposing is not financially viable."

The only thing Gersh and Slane agreed during the panel is their enemy: Bookies on the corner and illegal offshore betting sites. The American Gaming Association, which is the largest lobbying group for the casino industry, has estimated that at least \$150 billion a year is wagered illegally on sports betting in the U.S. □

MLB: League should get cut from casino wagers on sport



Boxers Jose Benavidez Jr., right, of Phoenix,, and Terence "Bud" Crawford, of Omaha, face each other during a news conference in Omaha, Neb., Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018, ahead of their welterweight WBO world title bout on Saturday.

Associated Press

Terence Crawford planning to silence Benavidez in ring

By ERIC OLSON

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Challenger Jose Benavidez Jr. has been displaying lots of bravado in advance of his fight with Terence "Bud" Crawford. The WBO welterweight champion expects Benavidez to respect him by the time things are settled in the ring Saturday night.

"I don't see anything special in him. I don't know why everyone hypes him up so much," Benavidez said of one of the world's top pound-for-pound fighters.

"I'm just going to go out there and shut him up. That's it. That's all," Crawford said.

There has been friction between Benavidez and Crawford since February, when Benavidez accused the champ of ducking him.

Both appeared at a media workout Wednesday, and two heated confrontations erupted between the fighters' camps, the last one ending with Crawford being pulled away from Benavidez. The bickering continued Thursday at a news conference.

The scheduled 12-round fight will be Crawford's first defense of his WBO belt. Crawford (33-0, 24 knockouts) last fought June 9, stopping Jeff Horn in the ninth round in Las Vegas. Benavidez (27-0, 18 KOs) fought on the Horn-Crawford undercard and knocked out Venezuelan Frank Rojas in the first round.

Benavidez is only the 10th-ranked 147-pounder by the WBO, and Crawford didn't have to take this fight. Top Rank Inc. promotes both.

Benavidez will be fighting for the third time since being shot multiple times in August 2016 in his hometown of Phoenix.

"I've been wanting this fight for three years," Benavidez said. "I know I have what it takes to beat him, and I am going to beat him." Crawford said Benavidez really doesn't deserve the opportunity.

"Not at all. But that ain't the point," Crawford said. "The point is we're here now, and we're fighting on Saturday. Come Saturday, all the talking will be out the window."

A win Saturday would allow Crawford to continue seeking matchups with fellow champions Errol Spence Jr. (IBF), Keith Thurman (WBA) and Shawn Porter (WBC). The obstacle to making any of those happen, however, is that those three boxers are promoted by Premier Boxing Champions. □



In this July 7, 2018, file photo, Daniel Cormier celebrates after defeating Stipe Miocic in a heavy-weight title mixed martial arts bout at UFC 226 in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Cormier says 'respect' made him turn down Miocic rematch

By DAN GELSTON

Daniel Cormier had a trio of dream opponents to fight before he retires next year. Derrick Lewis failed to make the cut.

But with UFC desperate for a worthy main event to headline a pay-per-view card next month at Madison Square Garden, the promotion enticed Cormier through cash and cachet to skip some worthy contenders and defend his heavyweight title against Lewis on short notice.

UFC got Cormier's attention with the lure of MSG — and a whole lot of money.

"They made it so good that it was difficult to turn away," Cormier said.

The 39-year-old Cormier could not turn down the payday, and is set to fight Lewis for the heavyweight title in the main event of UFC 230 on Nov. 3 against Madison Square Garden. Lewis, who has won three straight fights, was victorious last weekend against Alexander Volkov in Las Vegas.

Cormier had been challenged to a rematch by former champ Stipe Miocic. Cormier (21-1, 1 no-contest) added the UFC heavyweight championship — and suffered a broken hand — to his light

heavyweight title in July when he flattened Miocic in the first round at UFC 226. Miocic said this week he wanted another shot at the title, tweeting, "I've been staying up all night with my new born daughter and I still offered to fight you nov 3 with ZERO camp weeks ago ." Cormier said he turned down a rematch against Miocic, in part because of concerns his broken right hand had not properly healed.

"They asked me a few weeks ago and I didn't know if my hand was going to be OK," Cormier told The Associated Press on Thursday. "Also, because of the respect I have for Stipe, I really kind of wanted a longer training camp. I know the amount of work I put in to prepare for him last time. I don't know that in five weeks if I would have the amount of time to prepare for him this time."

So instead, his hand healed, Cormier gets Lewis, who will fight weeks after he took 129 significant strikes (78 to the head) in his win against Volkov.

"Stipe's a guy that is known his cardio, being able to go five hard rounds," Cormier said. "Derrick presents different challenges, but him pushing an insane pace on

me isn't really one of them." Even with Lewis on deck, Cormier said he's firm on his timetable to retire next year when he turns 40 in March. He still wants a dream bout with former heavyweight champion Brock Lesnar (who still works for WWE), and Miocic and career nemesis Jon Jones are on the list before he calls it quits. "Lesnar, Miocic and Jones are the only three guys I'm kind of interested in fighting right now," he said. "Lesnar because it's a massive fight. Jones because it's me and Jon Jones. Miocic because he deserves a rematch. He does. I'm not going to sit here and pretend he doesn't. If for some reason the Lesnar fight doesn't happen, I will fight Stipe because he deserves it." Cormier has never lost to anyone except Jones, the star-crossed former light heavyweight champion who beat him twice. The second bout last year was changed to a no-contest when Jones failed a doping test that kept him out of the sport for 15 months.

Cormier will be stripped of his light heavyweight title and the 205-pound crown will go to the winner of the Jones-Alexander Gustafsson bout at UFC 232 on Dec. 29 in Las Vegas. □

Federer battles, Djokovic cruises, del Potro out in Shanghai

By SANDRA HARWITT

SHANGHAI (AP) — Roger Federer was stretched to three sets for a second consecutive match to reach the Shanghai Masters quarterfinals on Thursday. Nevertheless, the top seed insisted he was content with how he's playing.

Federer defeated Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, a day after being taken the distance by Daniil Medvedev of Russia. "I'm actually quite happy," Federer said. "Bautista really had to raise his level of play in that second set to stay with me. I mean, he really caught fire, I thought. I served, I think, 80 percent in that second set and got broken twice."

Novak Djokovic cruised through his second-round match, but Juan Martin del Potro had to retire after hurting his right knee in a fall.

Federer led Bautista Agut

by a set and a service break when he became entangled in a fight that lasted until the second-to-last game of the third set.

Bautista Agut, a finalist here in 2016, finally offered Federer an opening to take control by surrendering his serve in the ninth game of the third set.

Federer will play eighth-seeded Kei Nishikori, a finalist in Tokyo last week, in the quarterfinals. Nishikori ousted Sam Querrey 7-6 (7), 6-4 on Thursday.

Third-seeded Del Potro, who has been playing with a cold throughout the week, was playing Borna Coric when he fell near the end of the first set. Del Potro had the knee wrapped but called it quits after losing the first set 7-5.

Djokovic earned partial revenge when he beat Marco Cecchinato 6-4, 6-0. The only other time the second-seeded Djokovic played



Novak Djokovic of Serbia hits a return shot to Marco Cecchinato of Italy during their men's singles match of the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament at Qizhong Forest Sports City Tennis Center in Shanghai, China, Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018.

Associated Press

Cecchinato was in the French Open quarterfinals, where the Italian upset him in four sets.

A Masters event is a level below a Grand Slam, but Djokovic was rapt to crush Cecchinato.

"I was making him play always an extra shot," Djokovic said. "I was aggressive

when I needed to be. The second set was perfect, really." Since Djokovic lost that French Open match to Cecchinato, he's won 28 of his 30 matches. The Serb is on a 15-match winning streak, which includes title runs at Cincinnati and the U.S. Open. He's bidding to win a record fourth Shang-

hai title this week.

He will take on seventh-seeded Kevin Anderson of South Africa, whom he leads 6-1 on head-to-head. Djokovic defeated Anderson in straight sets in the Wimbledon final in July. Anderson ousted 10th-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece 6-4, 7-6 (1). □

TEX WINTER

Continued from Page 17

Tex was always focused on details and preparation and a great teacher. I was lucky to play for him. My condolences to his family." Former Lakers star Kobe Bryant called Winter a basketball genius "in every sense of the word."

"My mentor. I sat with Tex & watched every minute of every game during our 1st season together. He taught me how to study every detail," Bryant posted on Twitter.

Winter published "The Triple-Post Offense" in 1962 and teamed with Jackson to use the system to great success with Jordan and Bryant. Winter assisted Jackson on championship teams with the Bulls in 1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997 and 1998, and the Lakers in 2000, 2001, 2002. He was a consultant with Los Angeles' 2009 title team, and the Lakers also won in 2010.

"Tex Winter was a basketball legend and perhaps the finest fundamental



In this Oct. 27, 2009, file photo, Los Angeles Lakers assistant coach Tex Winter receives his NBA championship ring during the second half of the team's NBA basketball game against the Los Angeles Clippers in Los Angeles. At rear is NBA Commissioner David Stern.

Associated Press

teacher in the history of our game," said Bulls President John Paxson, a former player under Winter. "He was an innovator who had high standards for how basketball should be played and approached every day.

"Those of us who were lucky enough to play for him will

always respect his devotion to the game of basketball. His contributions to the Bulls organization will always be remembered." Inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2011, Winter spent more than six decades in coaching.

"On behalf of the entire

Lakers organization, I'd like to express our sadness at the passing of Tex Winter," Lakers owner Jeanie Buss said in a statement. "Tex helped lead the team to four NBA championships and was a mentor to many of our coaches and players. In addition to his numerous contributions to the game of basketball, Tex was a wonderful man and he will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Winter family."

Winter was 451-336 as a college head coach, also directing Marquette (1951-53), Washington (1969-72), Northwestern (1975-78) and Long Beach State (1978-83). He coached the NBA's Houston Rockets in 1972-74, going 51-78.

"Today is a sad day for not only Kansas State University but also the entire basketball world with the passing of Coach Winter," K-State athletic director Gene Taylor said in a statement. "He transformed the game of basketball at all levels

and will always remain an integral piece of our rich basketball tradition here at K-State. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Winter family during this time. He will certainly be missed by the entire

Born Morice Fredrick Winter in 1922 near Wellington, Texas, he grew up in Huntington Park, California, and starred at Oregon State and Southern California in basketball and as a pole vaulter. He entered coaching at Kansas State in 1947 under Jack Gardner.

"While the Winter family mourns the loss of a husband, father and grandfather, we also celebrate what was by any measure a fruitful, productive and eventful life," Winter's family said in a statement. "The Winter family would like extend appreciation to all those who played an important role in Tex's life. We would also like to extend thanks for the outpouring of blessings in the wake of this sad news." □

FIFA undertakes global initiative to grow the women's game



In this Sunday, July 5, 2015, file photo, the U.S. team celebrates with the trophy after it defeated Japan 5-2 in the FIFA Women's World Cup soccer championship in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Associated Press

By ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

FIFA is rolling out a global strategy to grow the women's game in advance of next year's World Cup in France.

Soccer's governing body has been ramping up its attention to the women's side of the sport for the past several years, partly in response to calls for more equity.

The result is a five-pronged proposal that starts at the ground level among FIFA's 211 member associations, FIFA Chief Women's Football Officer Sarai Bareman said.

"I think we're trying to change the perception, that women's football is not this kind of poor little sister waiting for the hand-out from the big brother of men's football. We want to bring it into the mainstream," Bareman told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "And it may be controversial to say this, but ultimately we're trying to do ourselves out of a job here. And it may not happen in my tenure. But

there shouldn't be a need to have a Women's Football Division inside FIFA. Because everybody in FIFA and across football's the governing bodies, should be looking at football as just football."

The framework of the strategy launched Tuesday was approved by the FIFA Council last year and is linked with the FIFA 2.0 vision statement unveiled by Gianni Infantino in 2016 after he replaced Sepp Blatter as FIFA's president.

Soccer's governing body wants to see women's participation double over 12 years to 60 million worldwide by 2026. A key component will be insuring all associations have comprehensive women's plans in place by 2022.

The strategy also seeks to use the Women's World Cup to drive growth.

FIFA last month pledged to "significantly increase" prize money. The U.S. earned \$2 million of a \$15 million pool for the 2015 tournament in Canada; France earned \$38 million of a \$400 million pool for its men's title in Rus-

sia this summer.

Prize money for the 2019 women's tournament is expected to be announced this month.

FIFA has been criticized for not yet committing to using video replay to assist referees at next year's women's tournament. Video Assistant Referees were used in the men's World Cup for the first time in Russia. Bareman said a decision has not been made. Some have also complained the women's final on July 7 is the same day as the Copa America final in Rio de Janeiro and the CONCACAF Gold Cup final in Chicago, which could take attention away from the women's game.

FIFA has set a goal of having a woman on the executive committee of every member association by 2026. FIFA also seeks to have women fill the seats of one-third of its committee members — up from the current requirement of one per panel.

Former U.S. national team forward Abby Wambach, an outspoken advocate of

equity, praised FIFA for its effort but wants more details.

"Whenever we're talking about these big sweeping changes, for FIFA it's a huge deal, but I also want to see it actually happen. I want to see not only the growth of the game, but I also want to see money get into the hands of the women who are actually growing it," Wambach said.

The release of the strategy comes two years after Infantino appointed a woman, Fatma Samoura, as the organization's secretary general, and announced the creation of a new women's football division. Bareman was appointed to oversee it. Samoura, however, did not have a very public role at the men's tournament in Russia.

While Infantino advocates growing the women's game, there are persistent questions about how FIFA funding reaches women's programs. In an August exhibition between Puerto Rico and Argentina, Puerto Rican players stopping after kickoff, gathered to-

gether and pointed to their ears, protesting a lack of funding for the women's team.

It's not clear how much funding Puerto Rico received from the FIFA Forward program or what it went to. The women's team did not play in one international exhibition match last year, when the team should have been preparing for World Cup qualifying. Some say they have not been paid for qualifying matches earlier this year.

Puerto Rico's players were inspired by the efforts of other women's teams — including the U.S., Australia and Ireland — to secure more equitable compensation and treatment.

"At this point for us, those federations and those players are at a different level than we are. We're right now just asking for the basics," Puerto Rico midfielder Nicole Rodriguez said. "Like fields to practice on that aren't water logged, and that we're not the second-choice clubs to have priority. We want friendly games so we can continue to improve our FIFA ranking and be adequately prepared. And camps, like four camps a year. We don't have any of that. So yes it would be really awesome to get paid, but right now our focus is being able to continue our development and have the respect we deserve."

FIFA is communicating with its member associations about how women's soccer represents an area for growth.

"One of the key things to the success of this strategy will be making sure that that message gets out. And we're seeing it — I'm seeing it a lot," Bareman said. "I see it from the increased level of investment that's going in from the member associations. We see it from more and more women's leagues that are popping up around the world. We see it from the number of teams that are starting to participate now in the qualifying pathways for our competitions. □"

Waze expands carpooling service throughout U.S.

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

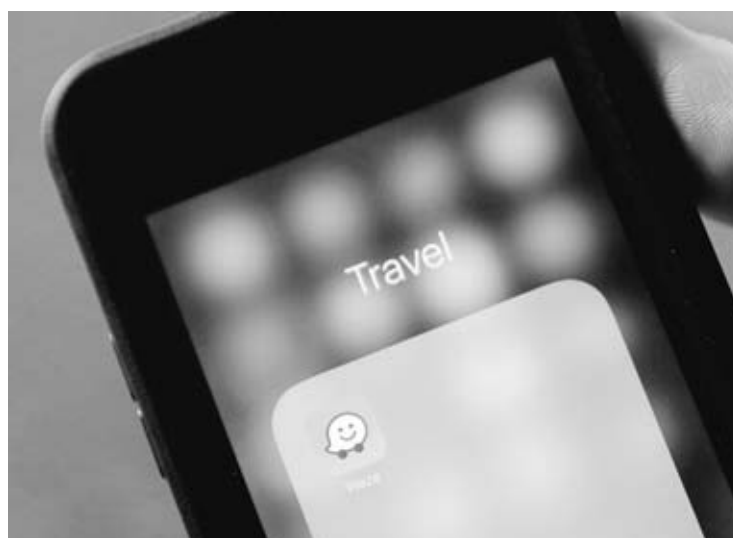
Google will begin offering its pay-to-carpool service throughout the U.S., an effort to reduce the commute-time congestion that its popular Waze navigation app is designed to avoid.

The expansion announced Wednesday builds upon a carpooling system that Waze began testing two years ago in northern California and Israel before gradually extending it into Brazil and parts of 12 other states.

Now it will be available to anyone in the U.S.

Drivers willing to give someone a ride need only Waze's app on their phone. Anyone wanting a ride will need to install a different Waze app focused on carpooling.

Riders pay a small fee to chip in for gas and other ex-



In this March 27, 2017, file photo, the Waze application is displayed on a smartphone in San Francisco.

Associated Press

penses. It's supposed to be similar to what it would cost to take public transportation to work, according to the company. For instance, Waze typically sets a price of about \$8 for a carpooling ride from San Francisco to Mountain View, California — the home of Google and other tech companies.

About 1.3 million drivers and passengers have signed up for Waze's carpooling service, the company says. About 30 million people in the U.S. currently rely on the Waze app for directions; it has 110 million users worldwide.

Waze's carpooling effort has been viewed as a po-

tential first step for Google to mount a challenge to the two top ride-hailing services, Uber and Lyft.

But Waze founder and CEO Noam Bardin rejected that notion in an interview with The Associated Press, insisting that the carpooling service is purely an attempt to ease traffic congestion.

"We don't want to be a professional driving network," Bardin said. "We see ride sharing as something that needs to become part of the daily commute. If we can't get people out of their cars, it won't be solving anything."

Gartner analyst Mike Ramsey also sees Waze's service as a bigger threat to other carpooling apps such as Scoop and Carpool Buddy than to Uber and Lyft. "Carpooling is a much different animal," he said. It's a form of transportation that Bardin said Waze had difficulty figuring out. Early on, Waze tried to get more drivers to sign up by emphasizing the economic benefits of having someone help cover gas costs for a trip that they were going to make anyway.

But earlier this year, Waze realized it needed a better formula for connecting strangers willing to ride together in a car. Many women, for instance, only want to ride with other women, Bardin said, while other people enjoy commuting with others who work for

the same employer or live in the same neighborhood. "Carpooling is a more social experience," Bardin said. "A lot of times those of us working in the digital world forget that social connections are often the most important thing in the real world." As part of the human interaction that occurs after Waze's technology makes a match, the driver and passenger can work out some logistics, such as pick-up points and departure times, between themselves. Ideally, once people find a group they like, they keep carpooling together through the app.

Drivers and riders can agree to adjust the price from what Waze suggests — up to the maximum the Internal Revenue Service allows for business-related mileage, currently 54.5 cents per mile. It's not meant as a job for the driver, but a way to cover expenses.

Waze handles payment transfers without charging a commission, something it can afford to do because Google makes so much money from selling digital ads on Waze and its many other services.

Even though Waze's carpooling service doesn't appear to be driven by profit motive, Ramsey isn't convinced that will always be the case. "I do think Google is realizing that it can't just keep making all its money from selling ads," he said. □

Google appeals \$5 billion E.U. fine in Android antitrust case



New Google Pixel 3 smartphones are displayed in New York, Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018.

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Google is appealing a record \$5 billion antitrust fine by European Union authorities, who say the tech giant abused the dominance of its Android operating system to stifle competitors. A company spokesman, Al Verney, confirmed Wednesday that the company has filed its legal challenge with the General Court of the EU, the bloc's second highest

court. The EU's executive Commission issued the fine in July after it found Google forced smartphone makers using Android to install the company's search and browser apps. The company also paid big phone makers to exclusively pre-install the Google Search app. The bloc's competition commissioner, Margrethe Vestager, said at the time of the ruling that

"companies must compete on their merits." Under the ruling, Google must take measures to fix the problem by the end of October or risk further fines.

"The Commission will defend its decision in Court," the EU body said in an emailed statement.

Google, which had said it would appeal, has argued that its free, open-source operating system has led to lower-price phones and stoked competition with its chief rival, Apple. The company filed its appeal Tuesday just as it was unveiling its latest generation of Pixel smartphones, which undercut iPhones on price.

Android is the most widely used mobile operating system, beating even Apple's iOS. The fine, which follows a three-year investigation, is the biggest ever imposed by the EU on a company for anticompetitive behavior. □

Facebook says it purged more than 800 spam accounts, pages

NEW YORK (AP) — Facebook says it has purged more than 800 U.S. pages and accounts for spamming users with garbage links and clickbait.

Facebook accuses their backers of "coordinated inauthentic behavior" for setting up networks of pages and accounts designed to mislead users about who they are and what they're doing.

The social network says

these accounts spread "sensational political content" designed to drive people to ad-laden websites outside Facebook. In the past, such spammers have often focused on celebrity gossip, weight loss remedies and fake iPhones. The turn toward politics suggests that spammers are learning from the Russian playbook on how to get people riled up and clicking. □

Stocks swing between big gains and losses after big plunge

By MARLEY JAY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks are mostly lower Thursday, making wide swings as investors react to the market's big decline a day earlier and a report that showed relatively tame inflation, which came as a relief.

Banks and health care companies are taking some of the worst losses while technology companies are slightly higher after a series of big losses. Stocks had their biggest losses in eight months Wednesday, and tech was the hardest-hit sector.

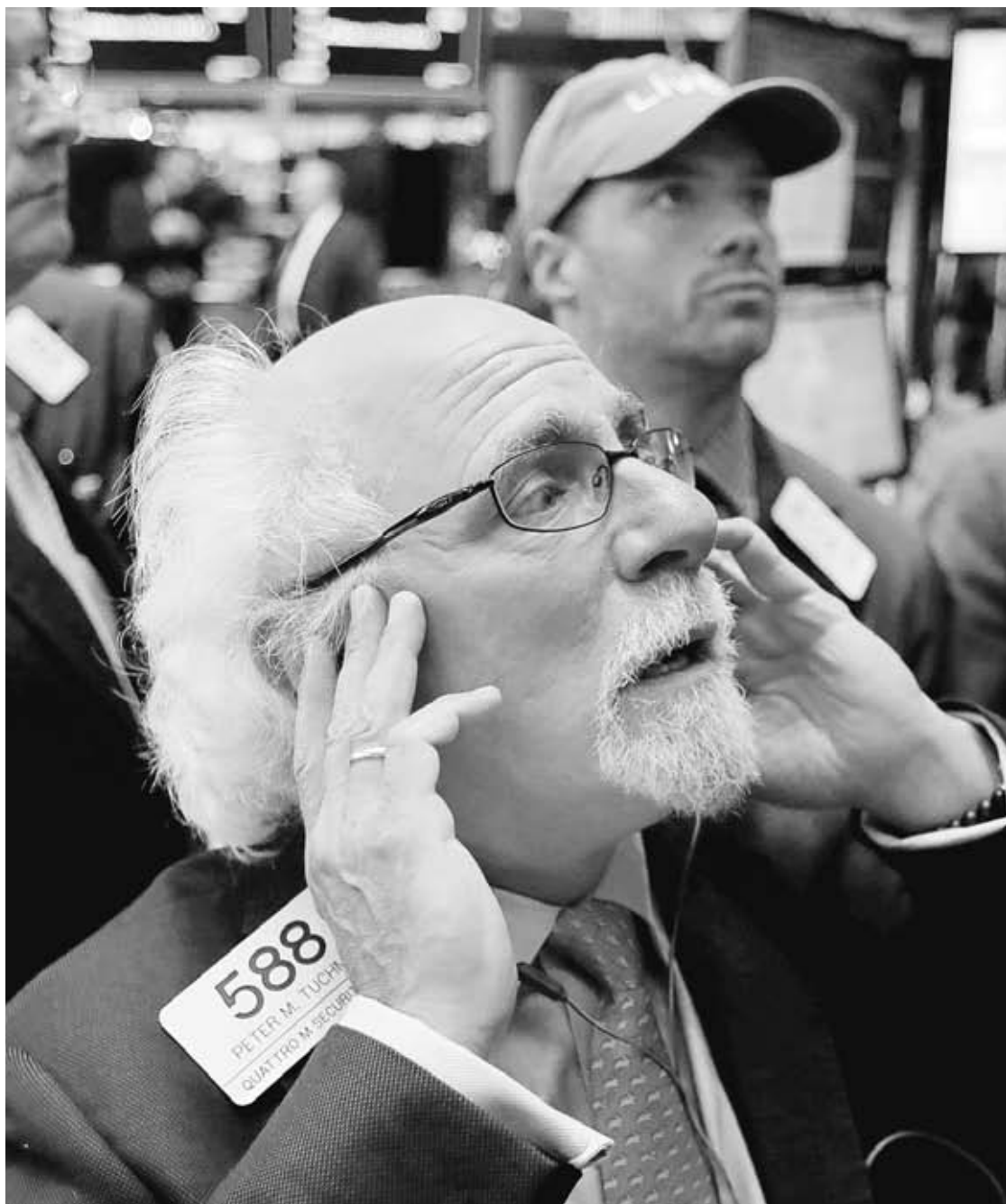
Bond yields, which have spiked over the last week, slid after the Labor Department said consumer prices grew only slightly in September. That's a sign inflation remains under control and suggests the Federal Reserve won't have to raise interest rates at a faster pace.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose as much as 84 points Thursday morning and then dropped 372 points, but later recovered almost all of that loss. At 12:40 p.m., the Dow was down 107 points, or 0.3 percent, to 25,492 after an 831 point plunge a day earlier.

The market's recent decline was set off by a sharp drop in bond prices and a corresponding increase in yields last week and early this week. And there are lingering concerns about the unresolved trade dispute between the U.S. and China. Strong earnings reports in the upcoming weeks could soothe investor nerves, but any negative comments from company executives about future profits could have the opposite effect.

The benchmark S&P 500 index slipped 13 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,772 after it fell 3.3 percent Wednesday. The Nasdaq composite rose 8 points, or 0.1 percent, to 7,430 after a 4.1 percent dive that was its biggest one-day loss in two years. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks was unchanged at 1,575.

Stocks in Asia and Europe



Trader Peter Tuchman works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018. Associated Press

suffered even steeper losses. France's CAC 40 and the British FTSE 100 both dropped 1.9 percent and the DAX in Germany lost 1.5 percent. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 gave up 3.9 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index shed 3.5 percent. The Kospi in South Korea fell 4.4 percent.

"People are trying to get a sense of 'where should my money actually be right now?'" said JJ Kinahan, chief market strategist for TD Ameritrade. Kinahan said investors don't know what to do because stock prices are skidding, but bond prices have also dropped sharply, which limits the appeal of bonds as an investment.

The S&P 500 is on track for its sixth loss in a row and it's down 5.9 percent over that span. The index hasn't had a losing streak this

long since a nine-day losing streak shortly before the 2016 presidential election. The benchmark index has climbed 29 percent since Donald Trump was elected. Bond prices rose slightly as the recent surge in yields attracted the attention of some investors. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.17 percent from 3.22 percent late Wednesday. That's still sharply higher than it was a week ago, and earlier this week the yield on the 10-year note reached its highest level since mid-2011.

The drop in yields hurt banks, and JPMorgan Chase fell 1.3 percent to \$109.98 while Bank of America sank 1 percent to \$28.96. JPMorgan Chase and several other banks will report their third-quarter results Friday morning. Kinahan said investors

want to know if Corporate America is worried about the Trump administration's tariffs on Chinese imports and if it sees signs of slower economic growth.

In health care, CVS sank 3.9 percent to \$75.86 and Aetna sagged 0.6 percent to \$202.23 after the New York Post said regulators in the state have concerns about CVS' purchase of the health insurer. The Justice Department approved the

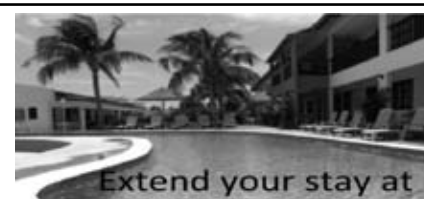
\$69 billion deal on Wednesday. Among technology companies, Apple rose 0.7 percent to \$217.88 and Microsoft picked up 1.8 percent to \$108.09. Amazon fell another 1.5 percent to \$1,728.86. Alphabet, Google's parent company, gained 0.9 percent to \$1,102.08.

Alphabet and Amazon are now in what's known as a "correction," a drop of more than 10 percent from a recent peak. They are the second- and fourth-most valuable U.S. companies. Facebook, which ranks sixth, has tumbled 30 percent since late July, and Netflix has fallen more than 20 percent, meeting the threshold for a "bear market." The Nasdaq composite has fallen 8 percent since it set a record high in late August.

U.S. crude dropped 2.1 percent to \$71.64 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, dropped 2.2 percent to \$81.23 a barrel in London. The price of gold jumped 2.5 percent to \$1,223 an ounce. On Thursday, President Trump renewed his criticism of the Federal Reserve, blaming the recent downturn in the stock market on the Fed's rate policy.

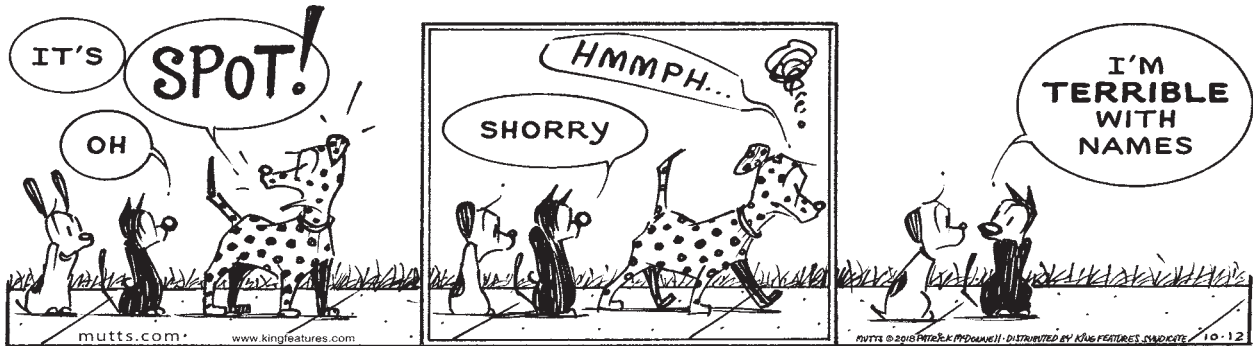
"We have interest rates going up at a clip that's much faster than certainly a lot of people, including myself, would have anticipated. I think the Fed is out of control," the president said to reporters in the Oval Office. Trump said he had no intention of firing Jerome Powell, who he appointed as Fed chairman in February.

The dollar fell to 112.33 yen from 112.59 yen, and the euro rose to \$1.1577 from \$1.1525. □

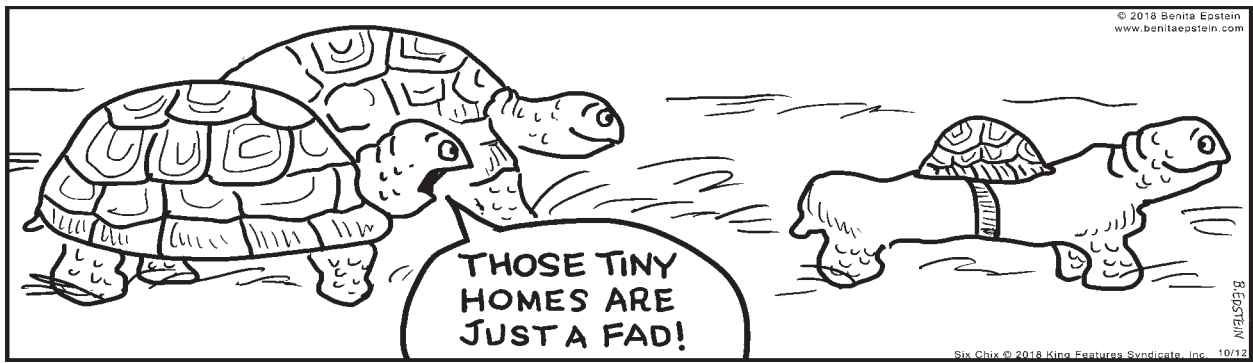


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Mutts



6 Chix



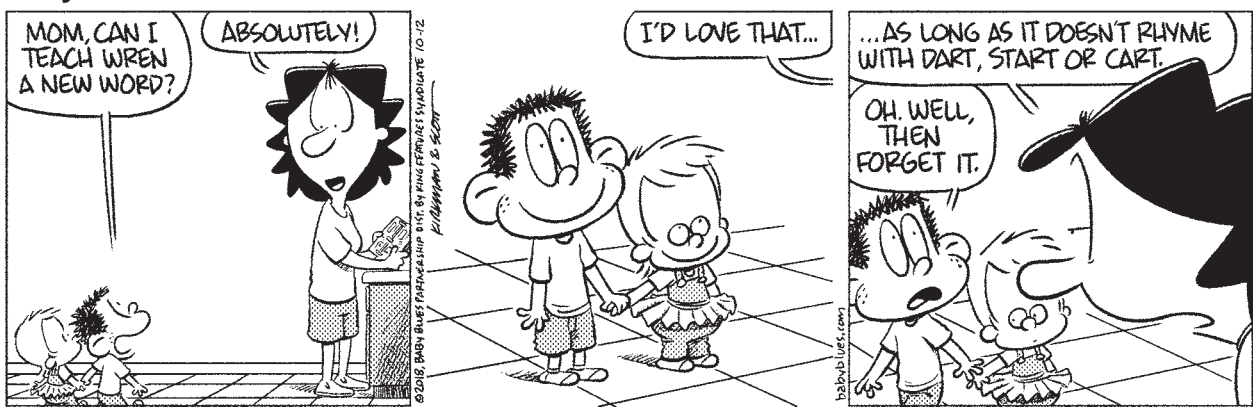
Blondie



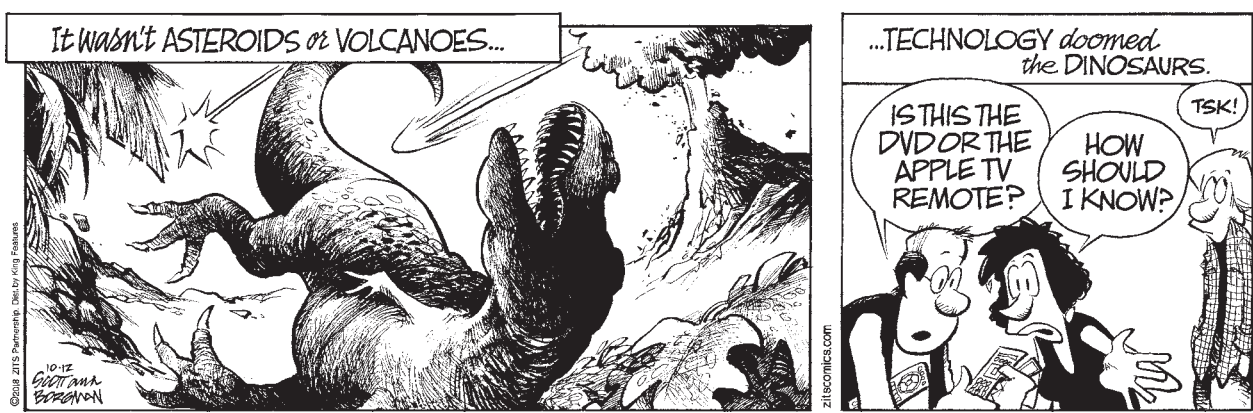
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2			1		8	
			8	7		
	4				1	
	8	5		3	2	
7						5
	9	7	6		4	
	6				4	
		2	1			
4			5			9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/12

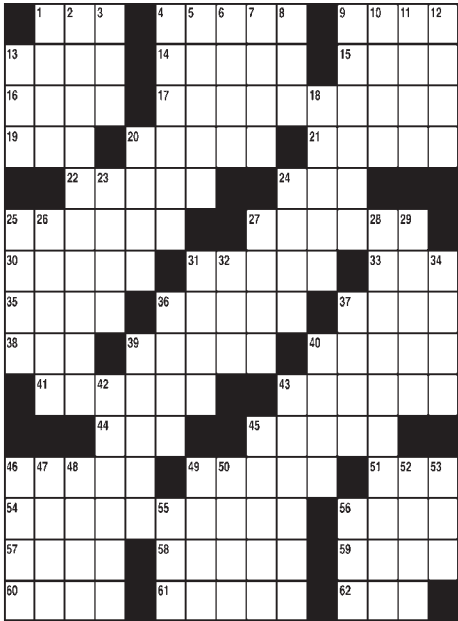
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	8	1	9	7	3	6	5	4
3	6	9	5	4	8	7	2	1
4	7	5	6	2	1	3	8	9
8	1	2	4	6	9	5	7	3
5	3	4	7	8	2	9	1	6
7	9	6	1	3	5	8	4	2
6	2	3	8	5	4	1	9	7
1	4	8	3	9	7	2	6	5
9	5	7	2	1	6	4	3	8

ACROSS

- 1 Routing word
4 Work of fiction
9 Prefix for enemy or diocese
13 Pealed
14 Reserved
15 Boyfriend
16 Honey factory
17 Trailing off from others
19 "Cat ___ Hot Tin Roof"
20 ___ up for; defend verbally
21 Paths
22 By and by
24 Brimless hat
25 Island formerly called Formosa
27 Truthful
30 ___ enough; ironically
31 Entreaties
33 Boone or Benatar
35 Kirshner and Sara
36 Sparkle
37 Threesome
38 Droid
39 In one fell ___; with a single action
40 Glow
41 Deep ___; firmly established
43 New Orleans team
44 "More ___ than a barrel of monkeys"
45 Taking to court
46 Charisma
49 Make right
51 ___ kwon do
54 Parties after weddings
56 Paper towel brand
57 Painting & sculpturing
58 Jagged
59 Leave out
60 Word of mild surprise
61 Item of value
62 Give up the single life



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/12/18

DOWN

- 1 Conceited
2 Render null and void
3 Grow old
4 Hook up; make secure
5 Church table
6 "___ in the U.S.A."; Springsteen hit
7 Washerful
8 CD followers
9 On fire
10 ___ in; bring under control
11 Walking stick
12 Caresses
13 Fraternity letter
18 Campbell & others
20 Remain
23 Hole makers
24 Froth
25 Burial place
26 Foreign farewell
27 Stack
28 Winter's follower
29 Contaminate
31 Walk with heavy steps
32 Name for 13 popes

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

KNOT	ESSAY	UCLA
NICE	ACUTE	GUYS
ONCE	SALES	CLERK
BEA	MINK	RISES
SAULT	WEE	
FAIRLY	COARSE	
EMOTE	GLOOM	HAS
TANS	PLEAD	TOGO
ASA	CRUEL	WARES
SLALOM	BISTRO	
TAM	BURKE	
ABHOR	PINE	NFL
BLANKET	TILE	
LONE	SIEGE	ONES
EGGS	SPREE	AGES

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10/12/18

- 34 On one's ___; alert
36 Actress Verdon
37 Slender
39 Lumberjack's remnant
40 Uttered
42 Anew
43 Dusk
45 Good judgment
46 Rugged cliff
47 Rescuer
48 Doesn't just sit there
49 Broadcasts
50 Pasture cries
52 Fervent
53 Dine
55 Afternoon social
56 "I do," for example

NASA film by Rory Kennedy revisits her uncle's challenge

By DAVID BAUDER

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Filmmaker Rory Kennedy couldn't resist the obvious place to open her new documentary on NASA. That's a news clip of her uncle, President John F. Kennedy, challenging the space agency to land a man on the moon by the end of the 1960s.

Kennedy said she wanted to give people who were not alive in the 1960s a sense of the excitement and energy that surrounded the Apollo missions and space flight in general.

The movie about NASA's 60th anniversary, called "Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow," premieres Saturday at 9 p.m. Eastern on the Discovery channel, after a short theatrical run.

"I really wanted the film to appeal to a large audience that is excited about NASA and its accomplishments and wants to learn more about them," she said.

Discovery approached Kennedy to make a film about the space agency's 60th anniversary. While she's had a special place in her heart for NASA because of her family history, Kennedy said it hadn't been a particular passion and that she learned a lot while making the film.

A line midway through the film succinctly sums up the chief lesson: "The farther we travel, the better we understand home."

While powerful telescopes point beyond Earth, NASA also looks back. The agency has 19 different satellites in place studying different aspects of the home planet. From the vantage point of space, NASA scientists can trace changes in the Earth's environment, such as the melting of polar ice and the damage done to coral reefs.

The Mars rover expedition is studying that planet in part to answer the question of whether that planet could at one time have supported life, and what happened in the interim.



This image released by Discovery Channel shows filmmaker Rory Kennedy during the filming of her new documentary, "Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow," premiering Saturday night on the Discovery Channel.

Associated Press

"The more NASA has looked into space, starting with our solar system and galaxy to the universe, the greater appreciation it has had about the preciousness of our planet and the uniqueness of our planet," she said. "With all of its extraordinary exploring and breakthroughs in the universe, we have yet to find another planet like Earth." The discoveries about changes to the Earth because of climate change are outlined in a non-combative way in Kennedy's film. She didn't want to risk alienating the audience by diving too deeply into a political fight on the issue. These politics, she believes, plays a role in NASA having

only a fraction of the federal funding that it had during its 1960s heyday.

"My intention was not to make this a climate change film, and I think it's ultimately a film about NASA," she said. "But the same scientists who are hanging off the space station and doing space walks and building (the) Hubble (telescope) are the same scientists who are saying this is an urgent matter."

The film touches upon NASA's failures, like the explosions of Challenger and Columbia and sending up a space telescope that initially delivered blurry pictures, but it's mostly an admiring look at the agency. □



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Finding answers for patients with rarest of rare diseases

By LAURAN NEERGAARD

WASHINGTON (AP) — The youngster's mysterious symptoms stumped every expert his parents consulted: No diagnosis explained why he couldn't sit up on his own, or why he'd frequently choke, or his neurologic and intestinal abnormalities.

Then they turned to a new national network that aims to diagnose the rarest of rare diseases — and learned Will Kilquist is the only person known in the world, so far, to harbor one particular genetic mutation that triggered all those health problems.

"It kind of put me at peace with myself, knowing there is absolutely nothing I could have done to prevent this," said Kari Kilquist of Murphysboro, Illinois, Will's mother.

The Undiagnosed Diseases Network, set up by the National Institutes of Health, turns scientists into detectives to attack medicine's cold cases — the patients left in diagnostic limbo because their symptoms didn't match any known diseases. The idea: Offer them access to cutting-edge research, at no cost,



In this Dec. 10, 2017 photo provided by the family, Jon and Kari Kilquist sit with their children, from left, Will, Emmy and Owen at their home in Murphysboro, Ill.

Associated Press

in hopes that uncovering unique ailments would improve overall medical knowledge.

Wednesday, the network published a snapshot of its early findings that highlight the desperate demand for help.

More than 1,500 people

applied for an evaluation between 2015 and 2017 at the network's initial seven patient sites. Just 601 in that first group were accepted, those deemed most likely to benefit, researchers reported in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Scientists came up with a

diagnosis for about a third, 132 of the first 382 patients to complete their evaluations. And 31 of those diagnoses were never-before-known syndromes, according to the report.

Scientists hope to improve that diagnosis rate as more patients enter the pro-

gram. Already, the application number has nearly doubled and more mysteries have been solved. Last month, the NIH added five more hospitals to the network. Even those who didn't get a diagnosis at first "say we have hope just knowing there are people looking at our case still and we're not forgotten," said Dr. Euan Ashley of Stanford University, one of the network sites. Diagnosis doesn't mean doctors automatically know how to help. One in 5 had a specific therapy recommended. Ashley said other families were able to cancel expensive follow-up testing; he calculated the network approach could cut tens of thousands of dollars from the typical patient's diagnostic odyssey.

In Illinois, Kari Kilquist didn't expect Will's treatment to change. He needs a wheelchair and feeding tube. He's a happy child, about to turn 7, who spends his days in therapy and watching Sesame Street. Still his mother jumped at one last chance for diagnosis, and perhaps a way to learn what to expect as Will grows. □



This undated image provided by Paratek Pharmaceuticals in September 2018 shows the antibiotic Nuzyra.

Associated Press

U.S. regulators OK updated version of decades-old antibiotic

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — U.S. regulators on Tuesday approved a modernized version of a decades-old antibiotic used to treat a number of infections.

Paratek Pharmaceuticals' Nuzyra was designed to overcome the problem of resistance to tetracycline, an antibiotic widely used until recent years.

The company said the Food and Drug Administration approved Nuzyra for treating bacterial pneumonia and severe skin infections.

Paratek plans to launch the antibiotic early next year, initially for use in hospitals. It hasn't disclosed the price. Boston-based Paratek estimates its drug could eventually treat nearly 900,000 hospitalized U.S. patients

annually. About 2 million Americans get infections from antibiotic-resistant bacteria each year and 23,000 die, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Paratek tested Nuzyra against several types of bacteria that cause pneumonia and skin infections. The drug was more effective than two standard antibiotics given to patients in comparison groups, company testing showed.

Many antibiotics no longer work well, if at all, against some bacterial infections, due to their overuse in medicine and livestock production.

Paratek's drug, also known as omadacycline, is the first in a new class of antibiotics. It's an updated version of

tetracycline, a 65-year-old antibiotic that was a workhorse against skin, respiratory and other infections until increasing resistance limited its use. Paratek created its drug by tweaking tetracycline to block two common ways bacteria use to resist it.

The FDA approved both an IV version and a daily pill that patients can switch to when they leave the hospital, the company said. It will eventually market the drug for patients treated at doctors' offices and clinics. Last week, the U.S. Health and Human Services Department announced at the United Nations General Assembly a new global effort to fight antibiotic resistance and develop new treatments. □

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Kathleen Turner to make Metropolitan Opera debut

By RONALD BLUM

NEW YORK (AP) — One of acting's most distinctive voices will make an unexpected Metropolitan Opera debut.

Kathleen Turner, known for words that smoke rather than shimmer, is joining the cast of Gaetano Donizetti's "The Daughter of the Regiment" in the non-singing role of the Duchess of Krakenthorp, the Met said Thursday.

She received an unexpected email this summer from Met general manager Peter Gelb proposing the idea. Asked to describe her voice, Turner terms it "kind of baritone."

"Peter says I'm one of the few women he knows who can sing 'Ol' Man River' in the original key," she said during an interview Wednesday with her distinctive, throaty laugh.

An Academy Award- and Tony Award-nominated actress, the 64-year-old Turner will appear in seven performances of the comic



In this May 23, 2017, file photo, actress Kathleen Turner attends a special screening of "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales", in New York.

Associated Press

opera from Feb. 7 to March 1, the last televised to movie theaters around the world in high definition.

"La Fille du Regiment" is

sung in French and stars soprano Pretty Yende in the title role of Marie, tenor Javier Camarena as Tonio (who sings the famous aria

"Ah! mes amis" with the nine high Cs) and mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe as the Marquise of Berkenfield. The Duchess enters imperi-

ously at the start of the second act to arrange a marriage between her nephew and Marie.

"I was thinking of interesting, bigger-than-life personalities, and Kathleen came to mind, Gelb said.

"I don't understand. Why do you need me?" Turner recalled telling Gelb. "I said, 'Well, send the libretto. Let me read it out loud.'"

She went to the Met in August, walked the stage, fell in love with the acoustics and agreed. Gelb said it has not been determined whether she will speak in French, English or a combination. Turner doesn't think she will attempt to ad-lib.

"I don't think I would have that much courage," he said.

Turner received an Academy Award nomination for "Peggy Sue Got Married" in 1977 and Tony nominations for Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" in 1990 and Edward Albee's "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" in 2005. □

Forgotten South African artist gets a retrospective show

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The abstract work of South African artist Christo Coetzee, who died in 2000, was widely shown around the world, including at a 1961 exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Yet Coetzee is largely unknown in his home country, an outsider whose experimental methods seemed alien to both the early apartheid-era establishment and later protest art that rejected white rule.

A new exhibition in Johannesburg, the biggest show of Coetzee's work in decades, aims to stoke interest in a prolific artist who barely gets mentioned in local classrooms even though prominent universities in the country have large collections of his pieces.

Its curators see Coetzee as a stylistic counterpart to some contemporary South African artists who incorporate wire, plastic and other

debris in "assemblage" art that explores inequality and other social challenges.

Coetzee, who died at home at age 71, was the "forefather of abstract expressionism in South Africa," said Shonisani Netshia, co-curator of "The Safest Place is the Knife's Edge," a Standard Bank Gallery exhibition that opened last week and runs until Dec. 1.

And yet, fellow curator Wilhelm van Rensburg said, Coetzee is "not in the public imagination."

In the 1950s and 1960s, Coetzee was part of a global movement of abstract expressionism that hardly resonated in South Africa, then in the grip of a race-based system that denied basic rights to the black majority.

As a white artist free of those restrictions, Coetzee went to Europe and traveled to Japan, where he collaborated with an avant-garde group. In 1975, he scandal-



People inspect the work of South African abstract artist Christo Coetzee, who died in 2000 and is largely unknown in his home country, at the opening of a retrospective exhibition on Thursday, Oct. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

ized the South African art scene by slashing 23 of his paintings at a Cape Town gallery and stitching them back together.

The vandalism was possibly a way of saying that white rule in South Africa would eventually disintegrate, and Coetzee later designed the cover of a novel

by a writer who fiercely opposed apartheid, according to van Rensburg.

Even so, Coetzee was not overtly political at a time when art clearly depicting the hardship and repression of the time was becoming a potent way to express opposition to apartheid, which ended in 1994 when

Nelson Mandela became president.

Coetzee, whose works include "Butterfly Lighting in a Diamond" and "Homage to Leonardo," seemed content as an artist on the fringes. He is reported to have said that "you can't be a prophet to society" and that "you want to be yourself."

It did mean, though, that the pioneer of South African abstract art was mostly ignored in a country still struggling to move past its legacy of racial conflict, despite progress toward reconciliation.

"We're still playing catch-up with our own history," said arts writer Percy Mabandu, describing apartheid as "an assault on memory."

And maybe Coetzee's work during white rule was more politically relevant than some people thought, Mabandu said. When "ugliness" is legislated, he said, "beauty is an act of protest." □

Chazelle's 'First Man' is at once intimate and grand

By JOCELYN NOVECK

Associated Press

Nearly a half-century has passed since the majestic moment when Neil Armstrong stepped carefully onto the lunar landscape, left foot first, taking that giant leap for mankind.

Whether you were alive then and glued to the TV, or relived it later through that iconic, grainy NASA footage, what you probably remember is just that: The majesty.

You're probably not thinking much about the deafening noise, the claustrophobia, the terror of blasting off in a rickety sardine can that could fail at any moment for any of a thousand reasons. Or the fact that Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin could have ended up stranded, left to die on the moon; President Richard Nixon had a speech ready for that dark scenario.

You will, though, be thinking of these things as you watch "First Man," the latest installment in director Damien Chazelle's meteoric career — and sorry for the space pun, but it's entirely



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Ryan Gosling in a scene from "First Man."

Associated Press

apt. An intimate character study that somehow becomes grand just when it needs to, "First Man," based on the book by James R. Hansen with a script by Josh Singer, is a worthy successor not only to Chazelle's "Whiplash" and "La La Land," but to the astronaut

films that precede it, like "Apollo 13" and especially "The Right Stuff."

It's also, amazingly, the first feature film about Armstrong. Chazelle's partner here is Ryan Gosling, who dials down his obvious star wattage to give an internalized, fully committed performance as the "reluctant hero," as Armstrong's own family described him. Gosling's task here is not merely to give dimension to a mythical American hero. He also has to play a man who famously kept his emotions in check. That may not be an asset for a movie character, but sure was an asset for the first human to set foot on another world.

And that's because this stuff was, well, terrifying! We begin in 1961, during Armstrong's test pilot days. Taking a hypersonic X-15 up for a spin, he's suddenly in trouble; he can't get back down. "Neil, you're bouncing off the atmosphere," comes the rather concerned voice from below.

He makes it back, though, barely breaking a sweat. As for us, we're irretrievably rattled.

From the heavens we go to a small home office, where Armstrong is on the phone, trying to find help for his toddler daughter, ill with

cancer. His grief over her fate will remain a theme of the film until the end. But it remains unspoken, even to his stoic wife, Janet, played here with subtlety and grit by the wonderful Claire Foy.

Seeking a fresh start, Armstrong becomes an astronaut in NASA's Gemini program. On Gemini 8, he successfully docks his spacecraft with another before suffering a harrowing in-flight emergency. The split-second that separates giddy success from terrifying failure, the tiny, claustrophobic spaces, the flimsy materials, the shaking, the roaring, the positively ancient-looking technology — Chazelle illustrates all of this, indelibly. And we're forced to wonder: How did they ever make it into space even once?

On the ground, meanwhile, we see what it's like to be a loved one. During Gemini, Janet explodes at Armstrong's boss, Deke Slayton (an excellent Kyle Chandler): "You're a bunch of boys making models out of balsa wood! You don't have ANYTHING under control."

Then there's the devastating launchpad testing disaster that killed Armstrong's fellow astronauts, Gus Grissom, Roger Chaffee and

Ed White. Hearing the news on the phone, Armstrong clutches a wine glass so tightly, he breaks it and gashes his hand.

But if he has qualms about going forward, he doesn't show it. "Your dad's going to the moon," Janet tells their boys. Does that mean he'll miss the swim meet, one of them asks? Foy's eyes flare with anger as Janet insists — indeed, commands — that Neil sit down and tell the kids he may never come home.

She's right: One of the more chilling scenes is a brief look at NASA bosses reviewing the speech Nixon will give if the men can't get off the moon, and what he'll say to the "soon-to-be widows."

And then, the mission. That famous walk to the launchpad, the astronauts waving, the applause. You hold your breath imagining how Chazelle will pull off the landing itself. With a granite quarry in Georgia standing in for the moonscape, it's as grand and beautiful as you'd want. And yet it's not a mere recreation of what we've seen before.

There's been a distracting controversy over whether Chazelle "ignores" the precise moment when astronauts planted a flag. It's silly for many reasons, but especially because this isn't a movie about symbols, or myths.

It's about men — especially one man.

After the grandeur of the moon landing, an event that still boggles the mind, the movie ends on a note of extreme quiet: just two people staring at each other.

It's a bold choice, but it feels right. Sometimes a movie feels biggest when it goes small. And this one feels big. Chazelle is only 33. One can only imagine how far he'll travel.

"First Man," a Universal Studios release, has been rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America "for some thematic content involving peril, and brief strong language." Running time: 141 minutes. Three and a half stars out of four. □

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OCTOBER 11 - 17

LADY GAGA | BRADLEY COOPER
A STAR IS BORN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]
MON-THU & SUN: 8:35
FRI-SAT: 8:35 | 11:25
CXC
MON-FRI: 3:50 | 6:20 | 9:10
SAT-SUN: 3:30 | 6:20 | 9:10
TIP
MON-THU: 4:55 | 7:45
FRI: 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:35
SAT: 2:05 | 4:55 | 7:45 | 10:35
SUN: 2:05 | 4:55 | 7:45

JACK BLACK | WENDY MCLENDON-COVEY
GOOSEBUMPS 2
[Sequel] [Horror] WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-THU: 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15
FRI: 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15 | 11:30
SAT: 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15 | 11:30
SUN: 2:30 | 4:45 | 7:00 | 9:15
SENSORY FRIENDLY PRESENTATION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 1:00PM

RYAN GOSLING | CLAIRE FOY
FIRST MAN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-FRI: 6:05 | 9:00
SAT-SUN: 3:10 | 6:05 | 9:00

TOM HARDY | MICHELLE WILLIAMS
VENOM
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-THU: 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20
FRI: 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50
SAT: 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50
SUN: 1:50 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20
TIP
MON-THU & SUN: 3:55 | 6:20 | 8:45
FRI-SAT: 3:55 | 6:20 | 8:45 | 11:20

KEVIN HART | TIFFANY HADDISH
NIGHT SCHOOL [PG-13]
MON-THU: 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30
FRI: 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:55
SAT: 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:55
SUN: 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30

CHANNING TATUM | JAMES CORDEN
SMALL FOOT
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-FRI: 4:15 | 6:25
SAT-SUN: 2:05 | 4:15 | 6:25

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Tom Morello teams up with eclectic partners on solo album

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — If you listen closely to Tom Morello's new album, you'll hear a 24-year-old guitar riff. He's been patiently waiting since the mid-1990s to finally unleash it.

The song "Vigilante Nocturno" contains a riff he wrote during recording sessions for Rage Against the Machine's "Evil Empire" but never found its way into a song. So it went into Morello's stockpile.

"It didn't find footing then, but I always kept that one in my back pocket. Like, 'That is a badass riff and one day it's going to tear people apart,'" he said.

That day is now with the release of "The Atlas Underground," which finds Morello teaming up with an eclectic collection of artists he hopes will "challenge the conventions of rock 'n' roll and electronic music and hip hop and punk."

Morello, who is listed among the 100 greatest guitarists by Rolling Stone magazine, has collaborated with folkie Marcus Mumford, alt-rock darlings Portugal. The Man, guitar god Gary Clark Jr., the Wu-Tang Clan's RZA and GZA, rapper Big Boi and the hypnotic DJ Bassnectar, among others. "The album features artists of diverse genres, ethnicities, ages and genders and



In this Oct. 1, 2017 file photo, Tom Morello, of Prophets of Rage, performs at the Louder Than Life Music Festival in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press

that, in itself, is a statement of these divisive times," said Morello. "The idea was to forge a sonic conspiracy" and "make a new genre of rock 'n' roll."

Morello, who is a fan of Mumford & Sons and has performed with the band several times, asked lead singer Mumford for help on the song "Find Another Way." Both are rock dads who carved out time to collaborate via Skype from different time zones.

"So he would put his kid to bed in England and I would

drop my kids off at school in Los Angeles and then return home to FaceTime with our acoustic guitars out and write that song," he explained.

As for Clark, he stopped by for a "three-hour blues-rock explosion jam" that was honed down to a "concise freight-train-disco demolition-metal thing" that would fit "very comfortably both in a mosh pit and the dance floor." It's called "Where It's at Ain't What It Is."

Morello, 54, is known for his shredding chops — he

was in Rage Against the Machine, Audioslave and Prophets of Rage — but he stretched sonically, too. Even into electronic dance music.

"I was never a fan of EDM music, or at least my understanding of it until I was introduced to Knife Party and I felt all of the aggression and the tension and release of the greatest rock 'n' roll music in their catalog," he said.

Morello also highlights up-and-coming artists, like exciting alt-rocker K.

Flay, born Kristine Flaherty. He was driving his kids to school when he heard her soaring, Grammy-nominated song "Blood in the Cut" on the radio.

"I pulled the car over. I got on my phone and I texted my manager: 'Find me K. Flay. I don't know if it's a man, a woman, a band, an orchestra — whatever K. Flay is I need to be in business with it,'" Morello said. "And it turns out that she's fantastic."

For her part, Flaherty recalls being shocked when she got an email from Morello proposing they work together. She and her guitarist were on the road and they'd get pumped each night watching Rage Against the Machine performance footage videos on YouTube.

"It's kind of the ultimate honor for me, not only because Tom is a legend and a pioneer and every other noun you could use in that world, but he's also just a good person and a creative person and someone who likes making things for the sake of making them," she said. "Those are the people that I want to be surrounded by." It wouldn't be a Morello record without the lyrics grappling with social issues and "The Atlas Underground," out Friday, has songs that deal with police violence, structural poverty and racism. He says his political activism was born from being the only African-American in his Chicago suburb.

"There was a noose in my family's garage when I was 13 years old and in the town we lived in there was a burned cross and stuff," he said. His mom taught at a public high school and sometimes the things written on her chalkboard "would it be straight out of 'Mississippi Burning.'"

He credits his mom — now 95 — with introducing him to Malcolm X and instilling in him the need to stand up against injustice everywhere. He was late to learn the guitar — 17, so he practiced eight hours a day — and then went to Harvard University to study political science. □

Things get quirky in 'Greatest Love Story Ever Told'

By LINCÉE RAY
Associated Press

"The Greatest Love Story Ever Told" (Dutton), by Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman

In their new book, actors and humorists Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman leave nothing off the table. "The Greatest Love Story Ever Told" describes their passionate marriage, acknowledges their non-traditional views of life and celebrates their ability to make it all work in Hollywood.

Raised in very different environments, Megan and Nick discuss their relationships with their families

when they were growing up. Megan was an only child who navigated a dysfunctional home life. Nick grew up in the Midwest with loving parents and siblings. It makes sense that Megan put up her guard for a long time before letting Nick into her world. It also makes sense that he adores her with every fiber of his being. The book is packed with hilarious, honest and wacky details about their sex life, religious beliefs and rise to stardom. Megan shares stories about her character Karen Walker on "Will & Grace" and how Nick happily stood behind her

as her strongest advocate. When the tables turned and Nick landed the role of Ron Swanson on "Parks and Recreation," Megan stepped out of the spotlight to let him shine.

Most of the chapters have been transcribed from a voice recorder and it takes concentration to remember who is speaking from the back-and-forth dialogue. But the individual essays are hilariously candid, and the affection that Megan and Nick have for each other is the recipe for an amazing love story. Some might argue it's the greatest one ever told. □



This cover image released by Dutton shows "The Greatest Love Story Ever Told," by Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman.

Associated Press

Israeli frankincense farmer cashes in on rare honey

By ILAN BEN ZION

ALMOG, West Bank (AP)

— An Israeli farmer has cashed in by making exotic honey from a rare tree that produces frankincense — the resin once worth its weight in gold and venerated in the Bible. But the farm's location in a far-flung West Bank settlement has left a bitter taste in at least one investor's mouth.

Guy Erlich's Balm of Gilead Farm is home to 1,000 threatened *Boswellia sacra* — the perfume-producing desert shrub mentioned in the Bible. He hopes these and his cornucopia of other medicinal plants will yield remedies for human ills — and even the conflict with the Palestinians.

But the farm's West Bank address, 6 kilometers (4 miles) from the Dead Sea, could hinder his project to cultivate and study threatened desert plants. The Palestinians and the vast majority of the international community consider Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, along with their use of local natural resources, to be illegal.

Ehrlich rejected such criticism, saying his work is for the benefit of everyone.

"I focus on plants that few other people in the world cultivate. That's how I have a chance to succeed in the years to come," he said. "These are also very important plants, and if they're not cultivated they'll disappear."

Boswellia sacra is native to the deserts of northern Somalia, Yemen and Oman, and is threatened by overharvesting of its precious resin, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Mature *Boswellia* trees are scored to extract the resin, which hardens into lumps ranging from white to pale green in color. Top grade frankincense can sell for hundreds of dollars per kilogram (pound).

Most frankincense comes from trees tapped in the wild, rather than grown on plantations. The tree is not indigenous to the Levant, but its resin has been valued in the region for mil-



In this Monday, Sept. 17, 2018 photo, Guy Erlich holds jar of Frankincense honey at his farm near Almog, an Israeli settlement in the Jordan Valley, in the West Bank.

Associated Press

lennia as a highly prized aromatic used in medicine and rituals.

It was burned as part of religious ceremonies throughout the ancient Mediterranean world, and was one of the ingredients mentioned in the Bible for the incense sacrifice in the ancient Jewish Temples. It was famously given as a gift to the newborn Jesus by the Magi, and still plays a central role in Orthodox Christian church ceremonies.

The alleys around Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher, where many Christians believe Jesus was crucified, entombed and resurrected, are redolent of the frankincense that vendors burn to entice pilgrims to buy chunks of the yellow resin.

While his *Boswellia* trees are still too young to produce frankincense, Erlich struck upon honey as a possible source of revenue for his operation.

His first batch of single-source honey made from the desert plants' tiny flowers sold for \$1,000 a kilogram (nearly \$500 a pound).

The amber-hued, exceptionally sweet honey has earthy undertones and a slightly astringent finish. In less than a month, Erlich says he exhausted his initial four kilogram (9 pound) stock, selling most of it to customers in the United States.



In this Sept. 17, 2018 photo, frankincense trees bloom on a farm, founded by Israeli Guy Erlich near Almog, an Israeli settlement and a kibbutz near the northwestern shores of the Dead Sea in the Jordan Valley, in the West Bank.

Associated Press

"I've started a waiting list for orders," he said.

Yet politics always looms in the background. Erlich said a global, Palestinian-led effort to boycott settlement goods has taken a toll on his business, with a major American investor jumping ship a couple of years ago out of concern about the boycott threat.

The European Union, Israel's largest trading partner, does not allow settlement products to say "Made in Israel." While it does not ban them, it requires that produce, including honey, be accurately labeled.

Despite international anti-settlement sentiment, Erlich said he hopes to foster cooperation with his Palestinian neighbors and turn his farm into a research center for medicinal plants. He also is growing 10,000 *Commiphora gileadensis*, the fragrant biblical "Balm of Gilead" shrub and namesake of the farm.

"I would be very happy to one day see this as an international project," he said, the Palestinian city of Jericho behind him in the distance. "We're sitting at a triangle of borders: we have Palestine, we have Jordan, and we have Israel.

"If my plants can also serve as a catalyst to unite Israelis and Palestinians, and perhaps other neighbors around, then I am all for it," he added.

Jericho's Palestinian governor, Majid Fityani, dismissed such a notion, saying the issue is political, not economic. "Israeli settlements are the embodiment of the Israeli occupation of our land," Fityani said. "This settler has stolen Palestinian land and if he is honest he would have left our land and returned to his country, Israel." Erlich and others are starting to look to the *Boswellia*'s medicinal properties. Besides aromatic compounds and the hallucinogen incensyl acetate, frankincense has an anti-inflammatory compound called boswellic acid, said Jason Eslamieh, an Arizona botanist and author of several publications about the plant. □